

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

LD 24

An Act to Clarify the School Budget Approval Process

PUBLIC 68

Sponsor(s)
MILLS

Committee Report
OTP

Amendments Adopted

LD 24 proposed to allow school units to clarify the relationship between the warrant articles authorizing specific line item expenditures and the warrant articles summarizing the three major types of expenditures. The purpose of the bill is also to avoid confusion that arises when voters approve specific line items but not the overall budget, or vice versa, leaving the status of the school budget unclear. The bill also proposed to correct a cross-reference.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1997, chapter 68 authorizes school units to clarify the relationship between the warrant articles authorizing specific line item expenditures and the warrant articles summarizing the three major types of expenditures in the school budget.

LD 37

An Act to Permit Schools to Allow Credit toward a High School Diploma for Paid Driver Education Courses

ONTP

Sponsor(s)
MICHAUD

Committee Report
ONTP

Amendments Adopted

LD 37 proposed to allow a public secondary school to give credit toward a high school diploma for a driver education course even if the student has to pay for the course.

LD 38

An Act to Exempt Schools with One Teacher from Continued Contracts for Teachers

ONTP

Sponsor(s)
GOLDTHWAIT
VOLENIK

Committee Report
ONTP MAJ
OTP MIN

Amendments Adopted

LD 38 proposed to exempt a school that has only one teacher from the requirement that they must either renew a teacher contract or fire that teacher after the two-year probationary period.

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
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| TOWNSEND | OTP-AM MAJ | H-349 |
| PENDLETON P | ONTP MIN | S-370 MICHAUD |

LD 54 proposed to authorize the Maine Arts Commission, in conjunction with the Department of Education, to establish an arts education outreach program that provides arts education to all public school students. The proposed program would also provide professional development opportunities in arts education to teachers statewide.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-349) proposed to modify the authority of the Maine Arts Commission and qualify the role of the Department of Education with respect to the establishment and administration of the arts education outreach program. The Maine Arts Commission would establish the program with the advice of the Commissioner of Education. The Department of Education would also provide the Maine Arts Commission with information, promotion, technical support, resources and personnel as necessary to administer the statewide arts education outreach program. The amendment would also add an appropriation and a fiscal note to the bill.

Senate Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (S-370) proposed to reduce the amount appropriated for the arts outreach program. It also adds a fiscal note to the bill.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1997, chapter 532 authorizes the Maine Arts Commission, with the advice of the Commissioner of Education, to establish and administer an arts education outreach program that provides arts education to all public school students and professional development opportunities in arts education to teachers statewide. The Department of Education will also provide the Maine Arts Commission with information, promotion, technical support, resources and personnel as necessary to administer the statewide arts education outreach program.

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
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| AHEARNE | ONTP | |

LD 67 proposed to eliminate the position and office of the Chancellor of the University of Maine System, eliminate the position of president for each campus and instead provide for one president for the combined campuses. To accomplish this, the bill would have:

1. Removed the chancellor from the list of ex officio corporators of the Board of Directors of the Maine Development Foundation;
2. Repealed the provision requiring the chancellor to present an address on the state of the University of Maine System to the Legislature;

3. Repealed the provision establishing a committee, appointed by the chancellor, whose reporting and implementation dates have passed;
4. Replaced the chancellor with a member representing the Board of Trustees of the University of Maine System on the New England Board of Higher Education;
5. Removed a reference to the chancellor in the laws concerning University of Maine System labor relations;
6. Required the board of trustees rather than the chancellor to appoint a member to the State Board of Substance Abuse Counselors and a member to the Board of Counseling Professionals Licensure; and
7. Amended the charter of the University of Maine System to remove all references to and authority of the chancellor and proposed to provide for one president for the combined campuses, with one vice-president appointed for each campus.

LD 90 **Resolve, to Require the Department of Education to Study and Make Recommendations to Alleviate Sexual Harassment in Schools** **ONTP**

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| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> POVICH | <u>Committee Report</u> ONTP | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
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LD 90 proposed to require the Department of Education to study the problem of sexual harassment in Maine schools and report its findings to the Governor and the Legislature.

LD 98 **An Act Regarding Balances Remaining in General Purpose Aid for Local Schools** **INDEF PP**

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| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> BRENNAN SMALL | <u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> H-424 |
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LD 98 proposed to require that when unexpended year-end balances from appropriations to general purpose aid for local schools exceed \$1,000,000, the Commissioner of Education must propose rules that distribute these balances back to schools.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-424) proposed to specify that unobligated general purpose aid balances may not lapse, but must be redistributed during the same fiscal year. Seventy-five percent of unobligated balances must be applied to program costs and 25% to out-of-district placement. The 75% portion to be applied to the state share of program costs must be determined by recalculating the original reduction percentage calculation. While this amendment was not adopted, the substance of this amendment was enacted as part of the supplemental appropriations bill (see Public Law 1997, chapter 395, part R).

LD 100 **An Act to Require Elementary and Secondary School Teachers to Be Certified in Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation and Basic First Aid** **ONTP**

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| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> POVICH | | <u>Committee Report</u> ONTP | | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
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LD 100 proposed that in order to be certified as an elementary or secondary school teacher, a person must have current certification of training in cardiopulmonary resuscitation and basic first aid.

LD 185 **An Act to Reward Schools for Exceptional Student Performance on the 4th-grade Maine Educational Assessment Exam** **ONTP**

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| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> MCELROY SMALL | | <u>Committee Report</u> ONTP | | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
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LD 185 proposed to establish a financial incentive program to reward schools whose 4th-grade students demonstrate exceptional performance on the Maine educational assessment test. Funding for the proposed incentives will be provided from the Revenue Targeting Fund prior to any adjustment of income tax rates.

LD 186 **An Act to Limit Reimbursement for Public School Construction and Renovation to \$80 per Square Foot** **ONTP**

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| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> MCELROY | | <u>Committee Report</u> ONTP | | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
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LD 186 proposed to limit the State's reimbursement for public school construction and renovation projects.

LD 187 **An Act to Provide That Students Receiving Any Services from a School Be Counted as Students for Purposes of State Aid** **INDEF PP**

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| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> MCELROY SMALL | | <u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM | | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
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LD 187 proposed to allow school units to be reimbursed for students attending equivalent instruction programs who received any services provided by their local school units. This bill further proposed to classify such students as full-time equivalent local students for which the school units would be entitled reimbursement at the same rate as for other students in attendance in those school units.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-321) proposed to allow school units to be reimbursed proportionally for students participating in equivalent instruction programs who receive any on-site academic services provided by their local

school units. The amendment would have further classified such students as full-time equivalent students according to the number of hours they received on-site academic services at a public school. School units would have been required to keep accurate records and report full-time equivalency enrollment. The amendment also proposed to add a fiscal note.

LD 190 **An Act to Require a Revote by Referendum on a School Budget and to Clarify the Budget Referendum Approval Process** **ONTP**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
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| SKOGLUND | ONTP MAJ OTP MIN | |

LD 190 proposed to allow school districts to clarify the relationship between the warrant articles authorizing specific line item expenditures and the warrant articles summarizing the three major types of expenditures. The purpose of the bill is to correct the situation that arises when voters approve the specific line item expenditures but not the overall school budget.

LD 236 **An Act to Strengthen the Requirements for Acquisition of Driver's Licenses by Minors** **ONTP**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
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| KERR MILLS | ONTP | |

LD 236 proposed to require that minors 18 years of age and under meet certain educational standards in order to apply for driver's licenses.

LD 237 **An Act to Increase the Funding for School Construction** **PUBLIC 469**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
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| MURPHY LIBBY | OTP-AM | H-574 |

LD 237 proposed to increase the maximum debt service limits for fiscal years 1998-99 and 1999-00 to increase funding available for school construction.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-574) proposed to require that the state share of the school construction debt service costs, as biennially established by the Legislature, must be supported by General Fund appropriations beginning in fiscal year 1999-2000. This amendment would also increase the debt service limit for fiscal years 1999-2000 and 2000-01 to \$72,000,000 and \$74,000,000, respectively. Finally, this amendment proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1997, chapter 469 provides for an increase in the school construction debt service limit for fiscal years 1999-2000 and 2000-01 to \$72,000,000 and \$74,000,000, respectively. The law further requires that the state share of the school construction debt service costs, as biennially established by the Legislature, must also be supported by General Fund appropriations beginning in fiscal year 1999-2000.

LD 241 An Act to Reward Schools for Computer Competency ONTP

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| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
| MURPHY | ONTP | |

LD 241 proposed to direct the Commissioner of Education to implement a program to reward school units whose students have achieved computer competency.

LD 319 An Act Regarding Rabies Vaccinations for Animals on School Grounds ONTP

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| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
| PLOWMAN | ONTP | |

LD 319 proposed to require the Commissioner of Education to adopt rules regarding requirements for rabies vaccinations for animals that are brought on the premises of a public school.

LD 320 An Act to Set the Amount of State Funding for School Building Projects at \$75 a Foot ONTP

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| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
| PLOWMAN | ONTP | |

LD 320 proposed to limit the State's reimbursement for public school construction and renovation projects.

LD 323 An Act to Assist Smaller School Districts Regarding Hiring Practices ONTP

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| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
| SAVAGE | ONTP | |

LD 323 proposed to change the definition of persons considered "full-time employees" for purposes of the prohibition on employment of school board members or their spouses.

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| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
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| MITCHELL E | OTP-AM MAJ | H-348 |
| PENDLETON P | ONTP MIN | H-564 RICHARD |
| | | S-367 MICHAUD |

LD 327 proposed to provide a \$1,800,000 General Fund appropriation to the Maine Technical College System. Fund raising campaigns by the colleges would raise an additional \$1,800,000 to match the state appropriation. The funds would be used to expand or create programs to increase system student enrollment by 500 new students.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-348) proposed to clarify the matching requirements pertaining to the Maine Technical College System appropriation. The system would be allowed to include donations in the form of cash, grants, equipment and supplies as matching funds and must return any unmatched portion of appropriation funds to the State by June 30, 1999. The amendment also proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill.

House Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (H-564) proposed to clarify that the Board of Trustees of the Maine Technical College System would determine the amount of funds to be raised by each college.

Senate Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (S-367) proposed to reduce the amount appropriated to the Maine Technical College System to increase enrollment.

Enacted law summary

Private and Special Law 1997, chapter 52 provides a \$300,000 General Fund appropriation to the Maine Technical College System for the purpose of expanding programs to increase student enrollment across the System by approximately 85 new students. The bill also calls for each campus of the System to raise funds to match at least 50% of State appropriations.

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
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| ROWE | ONTP | |
| PARADIS | | |

LD 352 proposed to amend the school funding formula by treating the additional costs required to educate students with limited English proficiency as program costs. This change would have ensured an equitable level of state funding for the special costs of educating students with limited English proficiency.

LD 365**Resolve, to Encourage Public Schools to Adopt a Conflict Resolution Model****RESOLVE 19**

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| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> WINGLASS | <u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> H-186 |
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LD 365 proposed to require public elementary and secondary schools to implement a comprehensive peer mediation and conflict resolution program addressing students' social and academic behaviors. The purpose of this bill is to teach students alternative methods of handling potentially violent situations without the use of violence and to take responsibility for their behavior.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-186) proposed to replace the bill by creating a resolve to encourage the Department of Education to support conflict resolution education initiatives and to conduct a survey of conflict resolution education models currently used in public schools in the State. The amendment also proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill.

Enacted law summary

Resolve 1997, chapter 19 encourages the Department of Education to support conflict resolution education initiatives and to conduct a survey of conflict resolution education models currently used in public schools in the State.

LD 392**An Act to Prohibit Schools from Charging Activity Fees for Participation in Extracurricular Events****ONTP**

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| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> LIBBY | <u>Committee Report</u> ONTP MAJ OTP-AM MIN | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
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LD 392 proposed to prohibit school administrative units from charging activity fees to students for participation in athletic or other extracurricular teams or activities.

LD 399**An Act to Extend Certain Survivor Benefits to the Spouses of Firefighters and Law Enforcement Officers and Expand the Definition of Law Enforcement Officers****PUBLIC 160**

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| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> AMERO | <u>Committee Report</u> OTP | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
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Current law provides a tuition waiver in state postsecondary educational institutions to children of firefighters and law enforcement officers, defined as police officers, county sheriffs and deputy sheriffs, who are killed in line of duty. This bill proposed to expand the definition of "law enforcement officer" to include game wardens, fire marshals, liquor enforcement officers and marine patrol officers. It would also provide eligibility for the tuition waiver to spouses of those firefighters and law enforcement officers who are killed in the line of duty.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1997, chapter 160 extends the tuition waiver benefits currently available to the children of firefighters and law enforcement officers who are killed in the line of duty to the spouses of fallen firefighters and law enforcement officers. The law also expands the definition of "law enforcement officer" to include game wardens, fire marshals, liquor enforcement officers and marine patrol officers.

LD 428 **An Act to Clarify Tuition Rates for Middle School Students** **ONTP**

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| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
| NUTTING | ONTP | |

LD 428 proposed to extend the provisions that cover secondary school attendance in another administrative unit and tuition for that attendance to middle school students. In doing so, the bill would have required that the maximum allowable tuition charge for public middle school attendance would be no higher than the state average per pupil middle student cost.

LD 432 **An Act to Allow Municipalities to Set Tuition Rates for Nonresident Students** **ONTP**

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| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
| GIERINGER | ONTP | |

LD 432 proposed to allow school units to establish tuition rates for nonresident students based on actual cost, but not exceeding that cost. It would have eliminated the current maximum allowable tuition based on the state average per public secondary school student.

LD 463 **RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine to Ensure the Rights of Parents to Direct the Upbringing and Education of Their Children** **DIED IN CONCURRENCE**

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| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
| KASPRZAK | ONTP MAJ | |
| HALL | OTP MIN | |

LD 463 proposed an amendment to the Constitution of Maine to declare that parental rights to direct the upbringing and education of their children could not have been infringed and would have further authorized the Legislature to make laws that would have enforced this constitutional provision.

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
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| PENDLETON P O'BRIEN | OTP-AM | S-127 S-169 PENDLETON P |

LD 503 proposed that the Commissioner of Education be required to obtain from the Department of Public Safety, State Bureau of Identification state criminal history record checks and from the Federal Bureau of Investigation federal and other state criminal history record checks on individuals seeking initial certification or renewal as administrators, teachers or education specialists; individuals seeking authorization or renewal as education technicians; or other educational personnel seeking approval or renewal in this State from the Department of Education. Individuals to be covered by this requirement would include, but would not be limited to, school bus drivers, custodians, coaches and secretaries. All of these individuals have or potentially have direct contact with students. The purpose of this proposed bill is to protect the well-being of school-age students and to prevent applicants from omitting conviction information from applications, particularly when these convictions pertain to sex offenses, controlled substances, or violent crimes. The conviction data could be a factor used in considering the individual's fitness for renewal of certification, authorization or approval. The proposed bill would limit the dissemination of criminal history record information received by the Department of Education. This bill also references the procedures that the subject of a criminal history record check may follow for access to their criminal history record check.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-127) proposed to add an appropriation, an allocation and a fiscal note to the bill.

Senate Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (S-169) proposed to delay from January 1, 1999 to July 1, 1999 implementation of a requirement that the Commissioner of Education obtain from the Department of Public Safety, State Bureau of Identification state criminal history record checks and from the Federal Bureau of Investigation federal and other state criminal history record checks on individuals seeking initial certification or renewal as administrators, teachers or education specialists; individuals seeking authorization or renewal as education technicians; or other education personnel seeking approval or renewal in this State from the Department of Education.

Enacted law summary

Public Law, chapter 452 requires the Commissioner of Education to obtain federal and state criminal history record checks on individual teachers, administrators or education technicians applying for or renewing certification, as well as applicants for other educational positions in the state for whom authorization for approval or disapproval is sought from the Department of Education. This law allows conviction data to be used in considering an individual's fitness for hiring, authorization, and for approval or renewal of certification. The purpose of this law is to protect the welfare of students by preventing applicants for educational positions from concealing conviction information from applications, particularly when such convictions pertain to sex offenses, controlled substances, or violent crimes. This law also limits the dissemination of criminal history record information received by the Department and provides a mechanism for applicants to access this information.

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
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| BARTH | OTP-AM MAJ ONTP MIN | H-229 S-361 MICHAUD |

LD 505 proposed to establish a tuition rate for nonresident pupils attending school in the unorganized territory and to eliminate unnecessary taxation to reflect existing practices, two of the recommendations of the Commissioner's Task Force on the Status of Education in the Unorganized Territory.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-229) proposed to qualify the per pupil tuition charge that the Commissioner of Education shall establish annually for nonresident pupils attending an elementary school in the unorganized territory. The commissioner would be authorized to establish the per pupil tuition charge at 125% of the state average expenditure per elementary pupil or at the receiving school administrative unit's actual expenditure per elementary pupil, whichever is less. This amendment also proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill.

Senate Amendment "A" (S-361) proposed to eliminate the portion of the bill that precluded the Department of Education from including certain state retirement costs of the education in the unorganized territory program when preparing the education portion of the municipal cost component.

Enacted law summary

Public Law, chapter 535 authorizes the Commissioner of Education to establish a tuition rate for nonresident pupils attending school in the unorganized territory. The commissioner is authorized to establish the per pupil tuition charge at 125% of the state average expenditure per elementary pupil or at the receiving school administrative unit's actual expenditure per elementary pupil, whichever is less.

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
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| POWERS | ONTP | |

LD 556 proposed to establish the Study Group to Examine the Issue of School Choice. The study group would have submitted its report and plan for a pilot project to initiate a school choice program for grades K-12 to the Second Regular Session of the 118th Legislature.

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
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| SNOWE-MELLO | ONTP | |

LD 586 proposed to require that students in kindergarten to grade 6 be screened for vision-related learning difficulties including close range focusing problems and accommodative deficiencies.

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| LD 600 | Resolve, Directing the Department of Education to Review the Laws Governing Applied Technology Centers and Regions | ONTP |
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| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
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| PARADIS RICHARD | ONTP | |

LD 600 proposed to direct the Department of Education, in consultation with the Maine Council on Vocational Education, to review and propose clarifications to the laws governing applied technology centers and applied technology regions (see LD 1048).

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| LD 623 | An Act to Provide Opportunities for Choice within the Public School System | CARRIED OVER |
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| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
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| AMERO | | |

LD 623 proposes to broaden public education options for parents and students and to provide that residence would no longer be a prerequisite for enrollment in a school administrative unit. A student may attend the public school of the student's choosing subject to some limitations. A school unit may limit the percentage of students who may choose to attend school in another unit if the loss of students creates a hardship, subject to rules established by the Commissioner of Education. Changes proposed to the School Finance Act of 1985 would provide an incentive for each school to maintain or increase enrollment levels by allowing funding to "follow" the student. The commissioner would be responsible for the coordination and implementation of this enrollment options program.

The bill would prohibit a school administrative unit that does not maintain one or more grades from kindergarten to grade 12 and has not contracted with another school administrative unit for school services from participating in the enrollment options program. The enrollment options program would not restrict the right of a school administrative unit to contract with another school administrative unit to provide school services or the right of a school administrative unit to receive tuition payment for educating a student from another school administrative unit.

The bill proposes to restrict the special education costs that must be borne by a school administrative unit that accepts a nonresident student with special education needs through the enrollment options program. The cost would be limited to the state average tuition cost. Costs in excess of the state average tuition cost would be paid by the sending school administrative unit. The bill requires a representative of the sending school administrative unit to participate in all meetings concerning provision of special education services to the student.

The bill further proposes to establish a review of the enrollment options program after five years of operation. The program could continue for a maximum of six years and the Legislature must approve continuation of the program past the sixth year. The bill would also change a definition in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A to clarify funding for students who participate in the enrollment options program.

Each school district superintendent would also be required to send information to the Department of Education about the number of requests for transfer into that district and the outcome of those requests. This bill was carried over to the Second Regular Session of the 118th Legislature.

LD 639 An Act Regarding the Filing of School Administrative Reports ONTP

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
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| BRENNAN SMALL | ONTP | |

LD 639 proposed to amend current law so that the Commissioner of Education could not withhold a school administrative unit's state subsidy as long as reports were filed by October 15th. It also would have limited the withholding to 10% of the state subsidy and would only have allowed the commissioner to withhold 10% when that withholding was imposed on all school units that failed to meet the October 15th deadline. Under current law, the commissioner may withhold a school administrative unit's state aid and the State Treasurer must withhold such state aid if the unit has failed to file a report or provide information required by law. Some of these reports are required by July 15th, which is only 15 days after the end of the school year.

LD 654 An Act to Amend the Charter of the University of Maine ONTP

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
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| AHEARNE | ONTP | |

LD 654 proposed to prohibit the trustees of the University of Maine System from increasing tuition or reducing faculty or course offerings unless they also implemented a 20% reduction in administrative costs.

**LD 684 An Act to Organize Schools in the Unorganized Territory as a ONTP
Single School Administrative Unit**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
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| MCELROY SMALL | ONTP | |

LD 684 proposed to require the Commissioner of Education to form and operate a single school administrative district covering the schools in the unorganized territory in order to reduce the cost of education. It further proposed to require that the per-pupil cost in the new district not exceed the state average.

LD 685

An Act to Limit Reimbursement for Administrative Expenses Based on the Size of a Local Educational Unit

ONTP

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| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
| MCELROY | ONTP | |

LD 685 proposed to require that a school administrator serve more than 3,500 students or more than 20 towns in order for the school unit to be reimbursed for the salaries and related benefits of the administrator.

LD 694

An Act to Repeal the Guiding Principles of the Learning Results System

ONTP

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| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
| LEMKE | ONTP MAJ | |
| HALL | OTP MIN | |

LD 694 proposed to repeal the guiding principles that current law requires the Department of Education and the State Board of Education to use in developing a statewide system of learning results.

LD 697

An Act to Give Municipal Officials Oversight of School Administrative District Budgets

ONTP

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| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
| PLOWMAN | ONTP MAJ | |
| | OTP-AM MIN | |

LD 697 proposed to require that school administrative district budgets receive approval of the municipal officials of the district prior to submitting the budget to the voters of the school district for final approval.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-350) This amendment, the minority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs, proposed to replace the bill. It would have used the county budget advisory committee process as a model for allowing school administrative districts to establish a school district budget committee consisting of municipal officers and school board members. The school board would still have prepared a budget for the district, but would then have submitted it to the budget committee. The budget committee would have been responsible for the final budget that was to be submitted to the voters of the school district. This amendment would also have added a mandate preamble and a fiscal note to the bill.

LD 701**Resolve, to Establish a Tuition Rate for the Town of Dennysville****ONTP**

Sponsor(s)
GOODWIN

Committee Report
ONTP

Amendments Adopted

LD 701 proposed to establish the tuition charge for students from Dennysville attending Edmunds School, an Unorganized Territory school, for the 1997-98 school year. The need to adopt legislation on behalf of the Town of Dennysville has been eliminated with the enactment of legislation (LD 505) that establishes a tuition rate for every tuition student in the State who attends an Unorganized Territory school.

LD 705**An Act to Amend the Laws Regarding the Approval Process of Budgets of School Administrative Districts****ONTP**

Sponsor(s)
MACK
HALL

Committee Report
ONTP MAJ
OTP MIN

Amendments Adopted

LD 705 proposed to prohibit the board of directors of a school administrative district from resubmitting to voters, for one year, any ballot or warrant measure that if approved would have the net effect of increasing the district's overall local school tax assessment beyond the current approved amount. This prohibition would have applied in the event a school district budget, or any portion of a budget, was not approved by voters on the first referendum vote.

LD 714**An Act to Prohibit the Hiring of Tutors in Lieu of Employing Education Technicians****ONTP**

Sponsor(s)
LEMAIRE

Committee Report
ONTP

Amendments Adopted

LD 714 proposed to eliminate the ability of school administrative units to bypass collective bargaining agreements by hiring employees classified as "tutors" rather than as "education technicians." The bill would also have limited the State Board of Education's approval of semiprofessional personnel to Education Technicians I, II and III.

LD 721**An Act to Reduce School Truancy****ONTP**

Sponsor(s)
WATSON
LIBBY

Committee Report
ONTP

Amendments Adopted

LD 721 proposed to increase the age for compulsory attendance at school from under 17 years to under 18 years. The bill would have also established a study committee to study habitual truancy.

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| LD 754 | Resolve, to Create a Study Committee to Examine School Union Organization and Governance Issues | ONTP |
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| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> PIEH | <u>Committee Report</u> ONTP | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
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LD 754 proposed to direct the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs to convene a study committee comprised of representation from parties with an interest in education to examine school union organization and governance issues and to submit its report to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs by December 15, 1997.

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| LD 793 | An Act to Require that Medication in Schools be Administered by Licensed Personnel | ONTP |
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| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> PENDLETON P LEMAIRE | <u>Committee Report</u> ONTP | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
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LD 793 proposed to permit only licensed personnel to administer medication in the public schools or approved private schools.

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| LD 801 | An Act to Strengthen the Complaint Investigation Process Regarding Students with Disabilities | ONTP |
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| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> PENDLETON P | <u>Committee Report</u> ONTP | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
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LD 801 proposed that the Commissioner of Education be required to adopt a comprehensive set of rules and standards governing the investigation and resolution of complaints concerning exceptional students. These rules would have included: a notification procedure for parents; requirements for complaint acknowledgment and on-site monitoring; and a model complaint form. This bill would have also authorized the complaint investigator to order any relief that may be ordered by a hearing officer in a due process hearing.

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| LD 811 | An Act to Integrate Sources of Support for Children with Special Needs | ONTP |
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| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> MILLS | <u>Committee Report</u> ONTP | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
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LD 811, a concept draft, proposed to integrate sources of financial support for children with special needs in the Department of Education; the Department of Human Services; the Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services; and the Department of Corrections into a single system with common funding in order to assist children with special needs.

LD 815 **An Act to Integrate Teacher Retirement and Other Educational Support Funds into the System for Distributing General Purpose Aid to Education** **ONTP**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
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| MILLS | ONTP | |

LD 815, a concept draft, proposed to take the money that is currently allocated annually to fund retirement for teachers and school district employees and funds for construction and transportation and integrate them all into the general purpose aid formula. The bill also sought to require school units to fund retirement for their own teachers and employees after July 1, 1998.

LD 833 **An Act to Amend the Charter of Foxcroft Academy** **P & S 25
EMERGENCY**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
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| CROSS HALL | OTP-AM | H-223 |

LD 833 proposed to increase the number of trustees for Foxcroft Academy.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-223) proposed to add an emergency preamble and an emergency clause to the bill to enable the Trustees of Foxcroft Academy to expand the number of board members as soon as possible after approval of the bill.

Enacted law summary

Private and Special Law 1997, chapter 25 expands the number of trustees for Foxcroft Academy to as many as twenty-one members. This bill was enacted as an emergency measure effective on May 15, 1997.

LD 846 **An Act to Have One Standard of Measurement for School State Assessment Examinations** **ONTP**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
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| SKOGLUND | ONTP MAJ | |
| PENDLETON P | OTP MIN | |

LD 846 proposed to prohibit the practice of using socio-economic status comparison bands in the state educational assessment program. State and school profile reports would have been required to use categories that are uniform for each school in comparing student performance.

LD 852 An Act to Prohibit the State from Dictating Educational Curricula ONTP

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| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> VEDRAL | | <u>Committee Report</u> ONTP | | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
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LD 852 proposed to place the control over educational curricula with local school administrative units.

LD 854 An Act Regarding the Obligation of the State to Fund Adult Education INDEF PP

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| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> BERRY D | | <u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM | | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
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LD 854 proposed to direct the Legislature to restore full funding of the State's obligation under the adult education law. It further proposed to establish a four-year period to attain full funding and would have required full funding each year after that time (see also LD 1538).

Committee Amendment "A" (H-306) proposed to replace the bill and add a fiscal note. The amendment would have ensured that funding for the state subsidy for public school adult education in fiscal year 1999-2000 and every year thereafter would increase in proportion to any increase in state funding for the general purpose aid subsidy for public schools for kindergarten to grade 12. This Act would have taken effect July 1, 1999. The amendment was not adopted.

LD 856 Resolve, to Review Special Education Laws to Determine if They Exceed Federal Requirements ONTP

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| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> MCELROY MILLS | | <u>Committee Report</u> ONTP | | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
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LD 856 proposed to direct the Commissioner of Education to review the laws and rules governing special education to determine whether they exceed federal requirements. The commissioner would have been directed to take the necessary steps to amend rules to conform them to federal requirements. The commissioner would have also been directed to report to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs no later than May 1, 1997.

LD 857

**Resolve, to Require the Department of Education to Review the
Methods Used to Determine the Tuition Rates of a Receiving School
for a Student from Another School District**

**RESOLVE 75
EMERGENCY**

Sponsor(s)
MCELROY

Committee Report
OTP-AM

Amendments Adopted
H-305
S-397 MICHAUD

LD 857 proposed that the Commissioner of Education be required to determine the appropriate tuition rate that should be paid to a receiving school for a student who is educated in a school other than one located in the municipality in which the student lives and to report to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs no later than November 15, 1997.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-305) proposed to replace the resolve and would have authorized the Commissioner of Education to establish a task force to review the current methods used by the State and local school administrative units to determine tuition reimbursement rates for students who are educated in a school administrative unit other than their own or in a private school. In reviewing these methods, the task force would examine school finance and governance issues in public schools, kindergarten to grade 12. The task force would report its findings and any recommended legislation to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs on or before January 15, 1998. This amendment would also change the title of the resolve to more accurately reflect the legislation in the resolve.

House Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (H-448) proposed to require the legislative member of the task force to be appointed jointly by the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House. The amendment would give that legislative member legislative per diem and expenses and would also add an appropriation section to the committee amendment. This amendment would also change the reporting date to January 1, 1998. The amendment was not adopted.

Senate Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (S-397) proposed that the Department of Education rather than the task force be required to conduct the study.

Enacted law summary

Resolve 1997, chapter 75 authorizes the Department of Education to review the current methods used by the State and local school administrative units to determine tuition reimbursement rates for students who are educated in a school administrative unit other than their own or in a private school. In reviewing these methods, the department will examine school finance and governance issues in public schools, kindergarten to grade 12. The department will report its findings and any recommended legislation to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs on or before January 1, 1998. This bill was enacted as an emergency measure effective on June 12, 1997.

LD 861 **An Act to Require That School Administrative Units Provide Additional Appropriate Personnel When Transporting Students with Special Needs** **ONTP**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
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| DESMOND | ONTP MAJ | |
| SMALL | OTP-AM MIN | |

LD 861 proposed to provide special-needs students with safer bus transportation to and from school.

LD 872 **An Act to Clarify Certain Provisions of Law Relating to the Method of Sharing of School Costs in the Wells-Ogunquit Community School District** **ONTP**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
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| LAWRENCE | ONTP | |
| WHEELER G | | |

LD 872 proposed to repeal the current sharing of school costs between the towns of Wells and Ogunquit based on state valuation and proposed to replace it with a sharing of costs based on the number of pupils in the school from each town.

LD 873 **Resolve, to Appoint a Study Group to Determine How to Consolidate and Preserve the Health Sciences Library in Maine** **RESOLVE 12**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
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| TREAT | OTP | |

LD 873 proposed that the State Librarian be authorized to establish a study group to determine the health sciences resources available in State Government and to develop a plan for preserving those resources.

Enacted law summary

Resolve 1997, chapter 12 authorizes the State Librarian to establish a study group to determine the health sciences resources available in State Government and develop a plan for preserving those resources.

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| LD 929 | An Act to Amend the School Construction Laws to Allow School Construction Projects That Expand Existing School Facilities beyond 8,000 Square Feet to Be Eligible for State School Construction Subsidies | ONTP |
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| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> FOSTER | <u>Committee Report</u> ONTP | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
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LD 929 proposed to direct the State Board of Education to revise the rules and approval criteria for the use of state school construction subsidies. Under this bill, the state board would have been charged with reviewing and adopting school construction approval rules that allow school construction projects that expand existing school facilities beyond 8,000 square feet to be eligible for state school construction subsidies.

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| LD 947 | An Act to Include Youth in Public Service | ONTP |
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| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> JENKINS VIGUE | <u>Committee Report</u> ONTP | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
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LD 947 proposed to involve the youth of the State in public service. The bill would have required school boards and municipal legislative bodies to select secondary school students to serve as nonvoting members on those bodies. The bill further proposed to direct the State Planning Office to review state organizations, including boards and commissions, to determine on which ones it would be appropriate to place student members.

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| LD 953 | An Act to Ensure That the Technical College System Is More Responsive to the Needs of the State | ONTP |
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| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> WRIGHT LAWRENCE | <u>Committee Report</u> ONTP | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
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LD 953 proposed to promote the development and implementation of courses and degrees at the technical colleges that are relevant to Maine's employment needs.

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| LD 973 | An Act to Allow Towns within a Community School District to Vote on a School Budget by Referendum | ONTP |
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| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> LAYTON | <u>Committee Report</u> ONTP MAJ OTP-AM MIN | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
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LD 973 proposed to provide an alternative voting procedure allowing district towns of a community school district to vote on a budget by a district-wide referendum. This procedure would have been similar to the alternative voting procedure currently available to school administrative districts.

LD 1010 An Act Regarding Nonresident School Tuition ONTP

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| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
| GOLDTHWAIT | ONTP | |

LD 1010 proposed to extend the insured value factor provision currently in effect for private secondary schools to public secondary schools. When a school administrative unit agrees to accept tuition students from another municipality, the insured value factor enables the receiving school to assess a somewhat higher tuition rate to compensate for their operating costs.

LD 1012 Resolve, to Require the Department of Education to Develop a Framework for the Study of Social Studies in Public Schools ONTP

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| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
| MILLS | ONTP | |

LD 1012 proposed to direct the Department of Education to create a task force to develop a social studies framework for use by local schools in developing curriculum.

LD 1036 Resolve, to Review the Components of the Operating Costs in the School Finance Formula ONTP

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| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
| MCELROY | ONTP | |

LD 1036 proposed to require the Commissioner of Education to review the components of the operating costs in the school funding formula to determine whether the existing operating costs in the school funding formula should continue to be included and report to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs no later than November 15, 1997.

LD 1045 Resolve, to Create the Task Force on Research and Development Investment CARRIED OVER

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| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
| BIGL | | |

LD 1045 proposes to create the Task Force on Research and Development Investment to determine the appropriate level of capital and human resource investment necessary to enhance Maine's ability to develop projects that can lead to the creation of new businesses and jobs. This bill was carried over to the Second Regular Session of the 118th Legislature.

LD 1048

**Resolve, to Establish a Task Force to Review the Applied
Technology Centers and Applied Technology Regions**

RESOLVE 74

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| MCELROY | OTP-AM | H-320 S-398 MICHAUD |

LD 1048 proposed to establish the Task Force to Review the Regional Applied Technology Centers

Committee Amendment "A" (H-320) proposed to replace the resolve by expanding the scope of the task force review to include both applied technology centers and applied technology regions. The task force would review governance relationships and organizational structures, finance and cost-sharing arrangements and program direction and development issues related to applied technology centers and applied technology regions. The task force would report its findings and any recommended implementing legislation to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs by January 1, 1998. Finally, this amendment changes the title of the resolve and adds a fiscal note.

House Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (H-449) proposed to require the legislative member of the Task Force to Review the Regional Applied Technology Centers to be appointed jointly by the presiding officers and gives the legislative member legislative per diem and expenses. The amendment as not adopted.

Senate Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (S-226) proposed to add an additional legislative member to the Task Force to Review the Applied Technology Centers and Applied Technology Regions; and to provide that the two legislative members, one of whom must be a member of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs and one of whom must be a member of the Joint Standing Committee on Legal and Veterans' Affairs, would be appointed jointly by the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House. The amendment would also give the legislative members per diem and expenses. The amendment would also require the task force to review the issue of competition with the private sector, including strategies to minimize that competition. The amendment as not adopted.

Senate Amendment "B" to Committee Amendment "A" (S-398) also proposed that the task force review competition with the private sector, including strategies to minimize that competition. The amendment further proposed to specify that only legislative members of the task force are entitled to per diem and reimbursement for expenses.

Enacted law summary

Resolve chapter 74 establishes the task force to review the applied technology centers and applied technology regions. The task force will review governance relationships and organizational structures, finance and cost-sharing arrangements, competition with the private sector, and program direction and development issues related to applied technology centers and applied technology regions. The task force will report its findings and any

recommended implementing legislation to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs by January 1, 1998.

LD 1080 An Act to Establish Public Charter Schools ONTP

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
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| BARTH AMERO | ONTP | |

LD 1080 proposed to authorize the establishment of charter schools within the State and would have set forth eligibility, application and funding requirements for charter schools.

**LD 1085 An Act to Give Authority to Set Acreage Necessary for Building or
Reconstruction of Schools Solely to the Local Authorities ONTP**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
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| SKOGLUND | ONTP | |

LD 1085 proposed to remove the requirement that the state board approve the amount of acreage to be used for a school construction project.

**LD 1099 An Act to Modify School Construction Laws for Renovation
Projects ONTP**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
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| KERR MICHAUD | ONTP | |

LD 1099 proposed to allow the Board of Education to approve funding for small scale construction projects if 50% of the funding comes from the local school administrative unit and the project cost does not exceed \$150,000. The state board would have been authorized to approve up to \$500,000 for eligible projects annually.

**LD 1109 An Act to Amend the State Share Percentage for Public School
Tuition Students ONTP**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
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| RUHLIN | ONTP | |

LD 1109 proposed to change the tuition calculation for a student who is not a state ward, a state agency client or a homeless child attending school in a school administrative unit other than the one where the student has a permanent residence. Currently, the tuition amount for such a student is the greater of the state share percentage of the unit in

which the student's parent or legal guardian resides or the average state share percentage. This bill proposed to replace the "average state share percentage" in that tuition determination with the "maximum allowable tuition."

LD 1121

An Act to Enhance Parental Involvement in Developing Educational Programs for Students with Disabilities

PUBLIC 441

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
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| PENDLETON P SKOGLUND | OTP-AM MAJ ONTP MIN | S-332 |

LD 1121 proposed that the Department of Education would be required to adopt rules to enhance parental involvement as fully informed partners in developing educational programs for a student with a disability and to increase parental involvement in the identification of a disability.

The bill would have required that the parents of a student with a disability be included in all meetings concerning that student, be informed of the right to bring outside experts, consultants, attorneys and advocates to the meetings, and that all participants in the meetings must accord each other appropriate respect. It also would have required that, when a meeting is held concerning an evaluation of a student with a disability, the significance of the evaluation would be explained to the student's parents at least one week before the meeting. The bill would further require the school administrative unit to keep minutes of all meetings concerning a student with a disability and distribute them to the student's parents.

The bill would mandate the order, as listed in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 7209, subsection 7, of the issues at every review in which the Individual Education Plan of a student with a disability would be altered.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-332), which is the majority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs, replaced the bill and proposed to require that a parent, surrogate parent or guardian first must attempt to resolve alleged noncompliance with special education statutes through discussions with the local school administrative unit before filing a written complaint to the Commissioner of Education to investigate noncompliance. Failure to do so would bar the parent, surrogate parent or guardian from recovering attorney's fees in any subsequent proceedings on the matter.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1997, chapter 441 requires that a parent, surrogate parent or guardian first must attempt to resolve alleged noncompliance with special education statutes through discussions with the local school administrative unit before filing a written complaint to the Commissioner of Education to investigate noncompliance. Failure to do so will bar the parent, surrogate parent or guardian from recovering attorney's fees in any subsequent proceedings on the matter.

LD 1124 **Resolve, Requiring the Department of Education to Replace the Building Code for Schools** **ONTP**

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| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> PLOWMAN | <u>Committee Report</u> ONTP | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
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LD 1124 proposed that the Department of Education be required to replace the building code, known as "BOCA," that currently applies to school buildings with a safe, secure, reliable building code that is a recognized industry standard but would be less expensive to school districts.

LD 1141 **Resolve, Regarding School Construction and Renovation Projects** **ONTP**

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| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> THOMPSON BENNETT | <u>Committee Report</u> ONTP | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
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LD 1141 proposed that any school administrative unit already placed on the State Board of Education's protected list for school construction project is not subject to the newly adopted renovation policy.

LD 1144 **An Act Pertaining to Parental Access to School Records** **PUBLIC 415**

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| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> LANE | <u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> H-670 |
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LD 1144 proposed that a school unit would be required to provide written notification upon request to a parent of all school activities and programs that require or include parental participation, involvement, notification or awareness. It would further have required school units to make available to parents all records relating to their child's education and school activities, including curriculum, standardized tests and results and medical history. The provisions of this bill would not have applied to a parent denied parental rights and responsibilities in a court order.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-670) proposed to replace the original bill and would have provided for notification to a parent of all school activities and programs for which parental notification or involvement may be in the best interest of the student, regardless of whether or not the student resides with the parent. The amendment would retain the exemption in the original bill that does not allow a parent who has been denied parental rights by court order access to school activities and programs.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1997, chapter 415 provides for notification to a parent of all school activities and programs for which parental notification or involvement may be in the best interest of the student, regardless of whether or not the student resides with the parent. The law does not apply to a parent denied parental rights and responsibilities in a court order.

LD 1147**An Act to Ensure Consistency Between State and Federal Special Education Requirements****PUBLIC 338**Sponsor(s)
CLUKEYCommittee Report
OTP-AMAmendments Adopted
H-543

LD 1147 proposed to ensure that state and federal special education requirements are consistent and that any rule currently in place or to be adopted not exceed federal regulations concerning special education requirements. The bill would require the Department of Education to identify provisions of a proposed rule anticipated to be more stringent than the corresponding federal statute or regulation and explain the justification for the difference. It would further subject any rule concerning special education currently in existence to the same review requirements.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-543) proposed to remove an incorrect reference and changes the reporting date to December 15, 1997. This amendment would also add a fiscal note to the bill.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1997, chapter 338 requires that the Department of Education ensure that state and federal special education requirements are consistent and that any rule currently in place or to be adopted not exceed federal regulations concerning special education requirements. The law also requires the department to identify provisions of a proposed rule anticipated to be more stringent than the corresponding federal statute or regulation and to explain the justification for the difference. The law further subjects all special education regulations currently in existence to the same review requirements. The department shall report the results of this evaluation of current special education regulations to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs on or before December 15, 1997.

LD 1149**An Act to Protect Local Education Agencies from Excess Costs Attributable to Special Education Students****ONTP**Sponsor(s)
CHARTRAND
PINGREECommittee Report
ONTPAmendments Adopted

LD 1149 proposed to increase a school administrative unit's state share of subsidy up to the amount of the placement cost in the event of budgetary hardship caused by costs of residential placement of a student with a disability. This bill would have further required a school administrative unit to petition the Commissioner of Education to obtain an increase in state share and the Legislature to appropriate funds for this adjustment in state subsidy.

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| LD 1158 | An Act to Amend the Laws Concerning Special Education of Exceptional Students | ONTP |
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| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> CHARTRAND | <u>Committee Report</u> ONTP | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
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LD 1158 proposed to amend the definition of an exceptional student under the special education laws by substituting impairment of emotional functions for impairment of behavior and by providing a definition of "serious emotional disturbance." The bill also proposed to clarify that a significant change of program for, or placement of, an exceptional student is one that is in excess of 10 consecutive days.

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| LD 1164 | An Act to Amend the Laws Regarding Child Development Services | ONTP |
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| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> FARNSWORTH LIBBY | <u>Committee Report</u> ONTP | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
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LD 1164 proposed to clarify the role of the regional sites in the operation of the Child Development Services System. This bill also proposed to establish a pilot project to be operated by the Department of Education to test the possibility of providing preschool services through local school units to children with special needs.

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| LD 1165 | An Act to Allow School Choice | ONTP |
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| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> SNOWE-MELLO AMERO | <u>Committee Report</u> ONTP | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
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LD 1165 proposed to establish the Comprehensive School Choice Program by phasing in over five years a system of vouchers for students who will attend private alternative education programs. It is the intent of the bill to improve the quality and efficiency of education in the State by encouraging nonpublic alternative education programs to compete with public school programs. It is further the intent of this bill to provide relief to the State's economy by partially subsidizing families who choose nonpublic education and relieving property taxpayers of the burden of supporting children in the public schools who would prefer to choose nonpublic alternatives.

The bill proposed to create the Comprehensive School Choice Office within the Department of Education to administer the program. This office would also be assisted by the School Choice Advisory Council. The office would administer the program, provide technical assistance and referral, and report on the program to the Governor and the Legislature.

LD 1168**Resolve, to Reorganize the University of Maine System****CARRIED OVER**

Sponsor(s)
LIBBY

Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

LD 1168 proposes to require the Legislative Council to draft legislation that reorganizes the governance and coordination structure of the University of Maine System by replacing the Board of Trustees of the University of Maine System with a coordinating board and seven campus boards of trustees. The Legislative Council may request assistance from the Office of the Chancellor of the University of Maine System, the Department of Education, the State Board of Education and the Joint Standing Committee on Education in drafting this legislation. This bill was carried over to the Second Regular Session of the 118th Legislature.

LD 1187**An Act to Improve the Transition of People with Disabilities from Children's to Adult Services****PUBLIC 345**

Sponsor(s)
BRENNAN

Committee Report
OTP-AM

Amendments Adopted
H-575

LD 1187 proposed that representatives of appropriate adult service agencies be required to participate in transition planning by attending pupil evaluation team meetings, or providing relevant information, related to the transition to adult services for students with disabilities who have attained 16 years of age or 14 years of age where appropriate. It would further require that the transition planning team complete documentation showing the anticipated service needs of these students upon aging out or graduation, and submit this documentation to the Department of Education. It would also require that the Department of Education transmit the data to the appropriate adult service agencies, which must show evidence of having used the data to develop their budget requests beginning with the biennium ending June 30, 2000.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-575) proposed to clarify the role of representatives of appropriate state service agencies participating in transition planning with pupil evaluation teams. The amendment would correct several references and change the date to June 30, 1999, at which time the state service agencies must show evidence of having used the data compiled in accordance with the bill to develop their budget requests.

The amendment also proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1997, chapter 345 requires representatives of appropriate state service agencies to participate in transition planning by attending pupil evaluation team meetings, or providing relevant information, related to the transition to state services for students with disabilities who have attained 16 years of age or 14 years of age where appropriate. The law also requires that the transition planning team shall annually complete documentation showing the anticipated service needs of these students upon aging out or graduation, and submit this annual documentation to the Department of Education. The law further requires that the Department of Education transmit the data to the appropriate state service agencies, which must show evidence of having used the data to develop their budget requests beginning with the biennium ending June 30, 1999.

LD 1195

An Act to Establish Funding for Repair and Renovation Projects
under the State School Construction Program

ONTP

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|----------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| CHARTRAND PINGREE | ONTP | |

LD 1195 proposed to authorize that state funds be used for major repairs to a school building when the repairs are part of a school administrative unit's capital improvement plan and will extend the life of the school building. The bill also proposed to require the Department of Education and the State Board of Education to develop rules for the awarding of the funds.

LD 1203

An Act Regarding Student Financial Aid Programs

ONTP

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| KONTOS | ONTP | |

LD 1203 proposed to require the Maine Educational Loan Authority to disclose the interest rate charges of all authority loans executed with postsecondary education students and to obtain the informed consent of student borrowers prior to making or consolidating an educational loan.

LD 1207

An Act Concerning Authorization of Educational Technicians

PUBLIC 553

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| LEMAIRE RAND | OTP-AM MAJ ONTP MIN | H-688 S-380 MICHAUD |

LD 1207 proposed to incorporate the educational technician authorization into the laws governing certification of educational personnel.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-688), which is the majority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs, proposed to extend the renewable educational technician authorization to grandfathered personnel and clarify that authorization will be renewed upon the completion of three credit hours of professional or academic study or in-service training. The amendment also proposed to allow school administrative units the option to develop local educational technician authorization systems under rules adopted by the Commissioner of Education. Finally, this amendment proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill.

Senate Amendment "A" (S-380) proposed to clarify that certain costs related to the authorization of educational technicians are not required to be paid by school administrative units, eliminating the state mandate.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1997, chapter 553 incorporates the educational technician authorization into the laws governing certification of educational personnel. The law further extends the renewable educational technician authorization to grandfathered personnel and clarifies that authorization will be renewed upon the completion of 3 credit hours of professional or academic study or in-service training. The law also allows school administrative units the option to develop local educational technician authorization systems under rules adopted by the Commissioner of Education.

LD 1209 An Act Regarding the School Administrative District No. 46 ONTP
Applied Technology Center

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| TOBIN HALL | ONTP | |

LD 1209 proposed to eliminate the School Administrative District No. 46 applied technology center. The bill further proposed to require that School Administrative District No. 46 continue to make its applied technology programs available indefinitely to other school administrative units that wish to participate in such programs on a cost-sharing basis that charges an equal per student tuition charge to all such participating school administrative units, including School Administrative District No. 46 or on any other basis that is mutually agreeable to all such participating school administrative units and School Administrative District No. 46.

LD 1229 An Act to Authorize the Conversion and Reuse of the Perry Hayden P & S 22
Hall at Pineland Center as an Elementary School EMERGENCY

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| BUTLAND | OTP-AM | S-178 |

LD 1229 proposed to authorize the Board of School Directors of Maine School Administrative District No. 15 to seek approval from the voters of the towns comprising the district to raise funds for the conversion of Perry Hayden Hall at Pineland Center for use as an elementary school. The proposed conversion project would replace the district's Russell Elementary School project that is presently on the special priority list of the State Board of Education and would eliminate the need for construction of a new Kindergarten to grade five elementary school. Maine School Administrative District No. 15 would not issue bonds for the permanent financing of this project until fiscal year 1998-99 and must treat \$82,500 of the debt service on the project for each of the first five years as locally funded debt service without state participation.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-178) proposed to clarify the authority of the State Board of Education to consider concept approval and fiscal funding approval in the same manner as other school construction projects and would allow the State Board of Education and the Commissioner of Education to approve the issuance of bonds for the project in fiscal year 1997-98. This amendment would also increase the new amount that Maine School Administrative District No. 15 is required to pay as locally funded debt service without state participation from \$82,500 per year to \$97,000 per year and increases the duration of those payments from five to 10 years. It would also raise funds for the conversion of Perry Hayden Hall at Pineland Center for use as an elementary school. This amendment further proposed to clarify the provision related to holding a local referendum vote. After receiving concept approval by the State Board of Education, this amendment would permit the Board of School Directors of

the Maine School Administrative District No. 15 to hold a referendum vote to consider the financing of the Perry Hayden Hall school construction project. Finally, this amendment proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill.

Enacted law summary

Private and Special Law 1997, chapter 22 authorizes the Board of School Directors of Maine School Administrative District No. 15 to seek approval from the voters of the towns comprising the district to raise funds for the conversion of Perry Hayden Hall at Pineland Center for use as an elementary school. The proposed conversion project would replace the district's Russell Elementary School project that is presently on the special priority list of the State Board of Education.

The law authorizes the State Board of Education to consider concept approval and fiscal funding approval in the same manner as other school construction projects and allows the State Board of Education and the Commissioner of Education to approve the issuance of bonds for the project in fiscal year 1997-98.

Maine School Administrative District No. 15 may not issue bonds for the permanent financing of this project until fiscal year 1998-99 and must treat \$97,000 of the debt service on the project for each of the first 10 years as locally funded debt service without state participation. This bill was enacted as an emergency measure effective on May 13, 1997.

LD 1236

An Act to Amend the Laws Relating to State Agency Clients

PUBLIC 326

Sponsor(s)
SMALL

Committee Report
OTP-AM

Amendments Adopted
S-266

LD 1236 proposed to amend the statutes regarding state agency clients to conform with the new organizational structures in other state agencies. It also would have amended the definition of "state agency clients" as it pertains to students involved with the Department of Corrections and would have clarified the right to attend school for all state agency clients.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-266) proposed to limit the eligibility of Department of Corrections employees who could agree to the placement of a state agency client to those who are authorized by the department.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1997, chapter 326 amends the statutes regarding state agency clients to conform with the new organizational structures in other state agencies. The law also revises the definition of "state agency clients" as it pertains to students involved with the Department of Corrections and clarifies the right to attend school for all state agency clients.

LD 1260 **An Act Allowing Schools to Remain on the School Construction Account Priority List** **CARRIED OVER**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| MURPHY | | |

LD 1260 proposes to establish that once a school administrative unit has an application for approval of a construction project on file with the State Board of Education, it may still seek or obtain local funding for a project. The bill would further require the state board to consider the initial application without regard to local funding or any construction that may have occurred while the project was on the priority list and requires the board to fund the project when the project rating allows concept and funding approval, based on the initial application. The bill was carried over to the Second Regular Session of the 118th Legislature.

LD 1271 **An Act Pertaining to Truancy** **ONTP**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
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| FERGUSON | ONTP | |

LD 1271 proposed that a student determined habitually truant may not hold the Department of Education, the Commissioner of Education or any school official liable if that student is illiterate. This bill further proposed to require the Secretary of State, upon notification by the commissioner of a determination of habitual truancy, to suspend the student's license or right to operate a motor vehicle for six months.

LD 1273 **An Act to Establish the Maine Center for Arts Education** **INDEF PP**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| AMERO | OTP-AM MAJ | |
| SMALL | ONTP MIN | |

LD 1273 proposed to establish the Maine Center for Arts Education. The center would be composed of a charter school in the Portland area and a student and a professional development institute, which would be established to utilize the arts in education to provide teacher training and other programs for all teachers on a statewide basis. The charter school would establish a series of regional arts education programs for artistically motivated students who have exhausted the available programs in their sending schools. The charter school is designed to be replicated in other areas of the State. This bill represented the recommendations of the Task Force on the Maine School of Visual and Performing Arts, established in Public Law 1993, chapter 706, Part B.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-310) proposed to alter the status of the Maine Center for Arts Education from a charter school to a public school. To accomplish this, the amendment would direct the board of trustees to consult with the Department of Education in developing the center's budget, permits the hiring of teachers who are not certified, would revoke the provision allowing the center to grant diplomas and would require that the trustees report annually to the Governor.

The amendment further proposed to establish that the board of trustees, in conjunction with the Maine Arts Commission, shall administer the professional development institute of the center so that professional development programs reach teachers in all parts of the State. This proposed amendment would also have added a fiscal note to the bill. The amendment was not adopted.

LD 1274

An Act to Include Training in Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation As a High School Graduation Requirement

ONTP

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| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
| MARVIN | ONTP | |

LD 1274 proposed to make certification in cardiopulmonary resuscitation a requirement for a high school diploma.

LD 1281

An Act to Require Individuals to Pass At Least 2 National Teachers Examination Core Battery Tests before Being Able to Be Recertified BY REQUEST

ONTP

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| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
| AHEARNE | ONTP | |

LD 1281 proposed that teachers, teaching principals and curriculum coordinators seeking recertification be required to meet certain examination requirements within 10 years of the application for recertification. Applicants for recertification must receive passing scores in at least two of the three areas tested by the National Teachers Examination. The bill would have allowed temporary certification of teachers who have not met the examination requirements.

The bill further proposed that teachers seeking recertification to teach in a different subject area or grades, or seeking a different level of certification, be required to meet these certification requirements.

LD 1295

An Act Relating to Applied Technology in Western Washington County

ONTP

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| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
| CASSIDY | ONTP MAJ | |
| BUNKER | OTP MIN | |

LD 1295 proposed to authorize the reorganization of an applied technology region for western Washington County. The reorganization would be authorized if a majority of the voters approve in a majority of the affected school units, rather than the two-thirds vote required under current law.

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| LD 1308 | An Act to Authorize School Units to Consolidate Administrative Functions | ONTP |
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| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> GOODWIN | <u>Committee Report</u> ONTP | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
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LD 1308 proposed to authorize school administrative units to enter into agreements for the cooperative employment of a school superintendent to perform administrative functions in those units.

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| LD 1315 | An Act to Make the University of Maine System Board of Trustees an Elected Body | ONTP |
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| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> LEMKE HALL | <u>Committee Report</u> ONTP | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
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LD 1315 proposed that the members of the Board of Trustees of the University of Maine System be elected, with one member elected from each county.

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| LD 1325 | An Act to Make the State Board of Education Elected | CARRIED OVER |
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| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> LEMKE HALL | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
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LD 1325 proposes that the 16 members of the State Board of Education be elected, with one member elected from each county. The elected board would make all policy for the Department of Education and may recommend education policy to the Legislature. The bill further proposes to direct the Commissioner of Education to study and report to the state board on the feasibility of restructuring the department. The bill was carried over to the Second Regular Session of the 118th Legislature.

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| LD 1329 | An Act to Amend the Reimbursement Policy Pertaining to Vocational Education | ONTP |
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| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> FERGUSON | <u>Committee Report</u> ONTP | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
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LD 1329 proposed to require that state aid for applied technology centers, regions and satellite programs be provided at the same level.

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| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
| SMALL | OTP-AM | S-188 |

LD 1337 proposed to make some changes to the education laws of the State of Maine. It would revise the designation of commissioner appointments within the Department of Education, and also revise the provisions of calculating elementary and secondary tuition rates to be consistent with each other. The bill further proposed to extend the reporting deadline for the State Board of Education on the issue of essential programs and essential services. It would also increase the percentage of voters in a municipality required to approve a withdrawal petition from a school administrative district. It would move the authority of approval of licensing of barbering and cosmetology schools from the Department of Education to the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation. It would clarify how to calculate the cost to a town in a school administrative district if it votes to keep an elementary school open against the wishes of the school administrative district school board. It would repeal language providing for the teacher candidate employment registry within the Department of Education. It would provide that the professional teacher certificate is the entry level, renewable certificate for an individual seeking certification only as an adult education teacher or an individual seeking from birth to under age six endorsements. It would require that, upon the request of a local school administrative unit, a private school approved for the receipt of public funds and private schools approved for attendance purposes only must release copies of student records for students transferring from the private school to the local school administrative unit.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-188) proposed to strike section 3 from the bill and leaves the statutory provision allowing voters of a member municipality to petition for withdrawal from a school administrative district with a simple majority vote in place. This amendment further proposed to strike sections 20 and 21 from the bill since these provisions refer to actions already approved in Public Law 1997, chapter 24. Finally, this amendment would add an allocation section and a fiscal note.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1997, chapter 266 make several changes to the education laws of the State of Maine. The law revises the designation of commissioner appointments within the Department of Education, and also revises the provisions of calculating elementary and secondary tuition rates to be consistent with each other. The law also moves the authority of approval of licensing of barbering and cosmetology schools from the Department of Education to the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation. The law clarifies how to calculate the cost to a town in a school administrative district if it votes to keep an elementary school open against the wishes of the school administrative district school board. The law repeals language providing for the teacher candidate employment registry within the Department of Education. It also provides that the professional teacher certificate is the entry level, renewable certificate for an individual seeking certification only as an adult education teacher or an individual seeking from birth to under age six endorsements. The law further requires that, upon the request of a local school administrative unit, a private school approved for the receipt of public funds and private schools approved for attendance purposes only must release copies of student records for students transferring from the private school to the local school administrative unit.

LD 1338**An Act to Restructure Public Higher Education****ONTP**

Sponsor(s)
AMERO
BUCK

Committee Report
ONTP

Amendments Adopted

LD 1338 proposed to reorganize the governance structure of the University of Maine System. The bill proposed to accomplish the following:

1. It would have provided for the administration of central services by creating the Board of Review of the University of Maine System.
2. It would have transferred certain powers of governance from the University of Maine System to the institutions of public higher education within the University of Maine System by creating an individual governing board for each institution.
3. It would have created a nonprofit foundation to be known as the "Maine Higher Education Foundation" for the purpose of assuming care, control and the power to dispose of assets held by the University of Maine System on the effective date of this Act, including the power to make grants to institutions within the University of Maine System for financial aid, research, public service and other campus purposes.
4. It would have required the Education Coordinating Committee to conduct a study addressing the methods of financing for public higher education and possible alternatives to the current financial arrangement.

LD 1340**An Act to Establish a Public Education Assessment Advisory Commission****CARRIED OVER**

Sponsor(s)
MILLS

Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

LD 1340 proposes to establish the Public Education Assessment Advisory Commission to oversee the continuing improvement to the system of learning results established pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 6209 and the development of the statewide education assessment program and other state and local assessment mechanisms for implementing the learning results system. The bill was carried over to the Second Regular Session of the 118th Legislature.

LD 1341**An Act to Improve Maine's School Construction Laws****ONTP**

Sponsor(s)
NUTTING
MCKEE

Committee Report
ONTP

Amendments Adopted

LD 1341 proposed to make the following changes to the laws governing school construction projects:

1. It would have repealed the provision, enacted in the 117th Legislature, that permits the Bureau of General Services to assess school administrative units the reasonable cost of services provided by the bureau of school construction projects.
2. It would have increased the maximum debt service limit for school construction projects in 1999 from \$69,000,000 to \$81,000,000 and in 2000 from \$70,000,000 to \$81,000,000.
3. It would have directed the Bureau of General Services to adopt rules to ensure that state and local suppliers are used; nonspecific bidding is required; the standard contract between the school and the architects includes a scale for maximum architect fees and a scale for architect errors and omissions insurance levels; and that all subcontractors work only under the architect's contracts.
4. It would have directed the Department of Education to develop a proposal to require that all school construction projects, movable equipment and technology be paid for by a combination of the state share percentage and the local share percentage for debt service costs.

LD 1353

An Act to Establish a Pilot School Choice Program

ONTP

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
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| PERKINS KIEFFER | ONTP | |

LD 1353 proposed to require the Department of Education to establish by rule the pilot School Choice Program in elementary education in a minimum of one school administrative district or union. The program would allow a parent or guardian to transfer a child to a public school or an approved, nonsectarian private school of the parent's or guardian's choice. The bill also proposed to require the sending municipality as defined in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 15652, to pay \$2,000 for each child to the receiving school for tuition assistance.

LD 1355

An Act to Fully Fund Local Education with Income and Sales Tax Revenues

ONTP

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
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| GOODWIN | ONTP | |

LD 1355 proposed to provide General Fund appropriations to the Department of Education to fully fund the cost of education for students in kindergarten through grade 12. Reductions in funding for all other departments and agencies are proposed to fund these additional education costs. The Department of Education and the State Budget Officer are directed to submit any proposed legislation required to implement the provisions of this bill by January 16, 1998.

LD 1363**Resolve, that the Department of Education Establish a Grant Program to Promote Consolidation and Efficiency in Education****ONTP**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| BRENNAN PENDLETON P | ONTP | |

LD 1363 proposed to direct the Commissioner of Education to establish a grant program funded from the General Purpose Aid account, not to exceed \$200,000 in any one year, for the purpose of promoting efficiency and consolidation in the local school districts.

LD 1365**Resolve, to Change the Name of the University of Maine at Augusta to Maine State University****ONTP**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| KONTOS DAGGETT | ONTP MAJ OTP MIN | |

LD 1365 proposed to require the Board of Trustees of the University of Maine System to separate the University of Maine at Augusta from the University of Maine System. This resolve would also direct the Board of Trustees of the University of Maine System to change the name of the University of Maine at Augusta to Maine State University and to report any necessary legislation that accomplishes these changes to the Governor and the Legislature by December 1, 1997.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-353), the minority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs, proposed to add a fiscal note to the resolve.

LD 1394**An Act to Establish a State Residential Treatment Center for Certain Students****ONTP**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
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| CHARTRAND KILKELLY | ONTP | |

LD 1394 proposed to allow the Department of Education to establish, by rule, one or more state residential treatment centers for primary and secondary education students to improve achievement for those students who cannot be placed in other private residential placements. A public school or any portion of it may be developed as a center. A center must comply with state law to receive state funding. The bill also proposed to require a center to enroll all exceptional students, for whom school administrative units have been unable to construct a program within the unit or locate an appropriate in-state program, unless the number of applications exceeds capacity, to give preference to eligible students who are Maine residents who present the greatest need and to consider for admission a Maine student in need of residential treatment before that student is placed outside the state.

The bill proposed to prohibit a center from limiting admission based on certain criteria listed in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 7505, subsection 4, paragraph C, but allow a center to limit admission to students within a special age group.

The bill also proposed to require a center to be financed by the General Fund and would require the Commissioner of Education to develop guidelines for determining various costs. The commissioner is given the authority to operate and supervise a center to provide education for students with severe emotional disorders.

The bill also proposed to require the superintendent of the school administrative unit in which a student resides to apply for enrollment in a center, in accordance with regulations and guidelines set by the commissioner. The unit's pupil evaluation team must decide to make the application, with the consent of the student's parent, based on inability to meet the student's needs in any other state program. Transportation to a center would have been provided in accordance with regulations and guidelines set by the commissioner.

LD 1398

An Act to Clarify the Law Regarding the Discipline of Exceptional Students

CARRIED OVER

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| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
| CLUKEY | | |

LD 1398 proposes to clarify the authority of school boards in disciplining exceptional students. Under the provisions of this bill, school boards:

1. Have the duty to apply an appropriate disciplinary sanction to an exceptional student whose misconduct violates school rules;
2. May authorize superintendents, principals or assistant principals to sanction exceptional students for such infractions; and
3. May interrupt an exceptional student's special education program when that student is suspended from school for 10 days or less.

The bill further proposes to require the Department of Education to remove state special education regulations that compel school administrative units to provide special educational services to an exceptional student who has been suspended for violation of school rules. The bill was carried over to the Second Regular Session of the 118th Legislature.

LD 1399

An Act to Allow an Appeal Concerning the Date to Determine Age for Kindergarten

ONTP

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| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
| POWERS | ONTP MAJ | |
| PENDLETON P | OTP-AM MIN | |

LD 1399 proposed to allow a person who will be at least five years old by December 15th of the school year to enroll in kindergarten after a determination by the school administrative unit that the person is ready for kindergarten.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-562), the minority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs, proposed to change the bill in the following ways:

1. It would amend the title to reflect more accurately the intent of the statutory provision;
2. It would allow a person who will be at least five years of age by November 15th of the school year to enroll in kindergarten after determination by the school administrative unit that the person is ready for kindergarten if a parent or guardian of a person makes a written request to the school administrative unit;
3. It would clarify that the initial assessment of the child's readiness for kindergarten must be made through the use of the school's current screening mechanism and that this assessment is final; and
4. It would add a fiscal note to the bill.

LD 1404 An Act to Create School Enrichment Funds for Public Schools ONTP

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| WATSON | ONTP | |
| NUTTING | | |

LD 1404 proposed to establish a voluntary checkoff for school enrichment funding contributions on local property tax bills. The money raised through voluntary contributions would be transferred to the local school board to establish a School Enrichment Fund that is used to fund predetermined academically oriented programs and activities. Under this bill, school boards are involved in determining what programs and activities will be funded and targeting amounts to be raised by the voluntary checkoff. The bill further proposed that a School Enrichment Fund may not be used to replace or supplant other nonvoluntary sources of funding.

LD 1410 Resolve, to Establish Additional Funding for the University of RESOLVE 70
Maine System

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| WATSON | OTP-AM MAJ | H-590 |
| SMALL | ONTP MIN | S-362 MICHAUD |

LD 1410 proposed to repeal the authority of the Board of Trustees of the University of Maine System to determine the amount of annual General Fund appropriations that are allocated to each campus and would establish an enrollment-based funding formula that provides for a more equitable funding base for students enrolled at each campus of the university. To accomplish this, the bill proposed to:

1. Require that a guaranteed percentage of the educational and general appropriation to the university be allocated to each campus based on a set amount of state funding per student;

2. Establish a procedure for determining the base allocation per student at each institution based on the number of students enrolled in each academic degree program level. Students enrolled in an undergraduate degree program or a master's, doctoral or law degree program receive a different level of base funding;
3. Establish a mechanism for funding the system-wide services office of the University of Maine System;
4. Establish an enrollment-based funding formula for the equitable distribution of public subsidies in support of campus facilities; and
5. Provide a mechanism to implement the enrollment-based funding formula over a transition period that begins in fiscal year 1998-99.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-590) proposed to replace the original bill and change it to a resolve. The amendment would direct the Board of Trustees of the University of Maine System and the Chancellor to review the current method of distributing state resources and to report to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs on a funding formula to be implemented in fiscal year 1999-2000. This amendment would also provide a General Fund appropriation of \$1,000,000 to provide additional support for students at the University of Maine System. Finally, this amendment adds a fiscal note.

Senate Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (S-362) proposed to reduce the amount appropriated to the University of Maine System from \$1,000,000 to \$250,000.

Enacted law summary

Resolve 1997, chapter 70 directs the Board of Trustees of the University of Maine System and the Chancellor to review the current method of distributing state resources and to report to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs by January 15, 1998 on a funding formula to be implemented in fiscal year 1999-2000. This amendment also provides a General Fund appropriation of \$250,000 to provide additional support for students at the University of Maine System.

LD 1415

Resolve, Directing the Department of Education to Review Certain Procedures Regarding Special Education

ONTP

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| PENDLETON P | ONTP | |

LD 1415 proposed to direct the Department of Education to review the process for determining whether a child is entitled to receive special education services and the process used by the department to investigate a complaint that a school administrative unit is not providing adequate special education services, including how the department brings the school unit into compliance after a finding of inadequacy. The department is directed to report its findings, and any necessary implementing legislation, to the Joint Standing Committee on Education by December 1, 1997.

LD 1416**An Act Concerning Eligibility for Service on a School Board****CARRIED OVER**Sponsor(s)
KILKELLYCommittee ReportAmendments Adopted

LD 1416 proposes to amend the current definition of "full-time employee" as that applies to school board membership. Currently, neither a full-time employee in a public school nor such an employee's spouse may serve on the district's or union's school board. This bill further proposes a definition of "volunteer" to mean a person who, for no remuneration, volunteers no more than once a month or in no more than five months a year. The bill allows volunteers to serve on a school board but maintains the prohibition against full-time employees serving as school board members. The bill was carried over to the Second Regular Session of the 118th Legislature.

LD 1425**An Act to Provide for Direct Reimbursement of Special Education Costs****ONTP**Sponsor(s)
KILKELLY
MITCHELL ECommittee Report
ONTPAmendments Adopted

LD 1425 proposed to guarantee that each school administrative unit in the State would receive compensation for its current year special education costs on a monthly basis. Compensation for special education costs would equal the unit's most recent monthly special education expenditure multiplied by the average statewide state share percentage of program costs in the current year.

The bill further proposed to increase the State's share of special education costs to 100% effective July 1, 2006 and adds a provision for paying 1997-98 school year special education costs to school units over a five-year period, beginning in July 2000.

LD 1436**An Act to Amend School Construction Laws****CARRIED OVER**Sponsor(s)
TREAT
COWGERCommittee ReportAmendments Adopted

LD 1436 proposes that the State Board of Education be required to include in its rating plan for school construction projects equal consideration for "substantial" restoration, rather than "complete" restoration, if it is in lieu of new construction and consideration of health and safety, building codes and federal Americans with Disabilities Act violations. The bill also would amend the design limits to eliminate any board requirements for minimum parcel size if the location of a school construction project is consistent with the town's comprehensive plan and other approval criteria are met. The bill further proposes to establish that, once a school administrative unit has been approved by the state board for funding, it may still seek or obtain local funding for a project and be reimbursed for any funds expended prior to receipt of state funding once the money is released from the State to the school administrative unit. The bill was carried over to the Second Regular Session of the 118th Legislature.

LD 1442

An Act to Prohibit the Denial of Teacher Certification Based on Refusal to Participate in Learning Results

ONTP

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| LEMKE | ONTP MAJ OTP MIN | |

LD 1442 proposed to ensure that teacher certification is not conditioned on participation in the learning results system or related professional development. It would permit an individual subject to certification to refuse to be involved in learning results due to conscientious objection to the system. The State Board of Education would be required to establish procedures for determining if the refusal is due to conscientious objection.

LD 1447

Resolve, to Require the Department of Environmental Protection to Review the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act of 1986

RESOLVE 76

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|--------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| GIERINGER CAREY | OTP-AM | H-544 S-381 MICHAUD |

LD 1447 proposed to establish the Committee to Review the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act of 1986 for the purpose of reviewing the federal act as it relates to asbestos abatement in schools throughout this State.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-544) proposed to specify that the Governor's two appointees to the Committee to Review the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act of 1986 must represent the Department of Environmental Protection and the Bureau of General Services. The amendment also proposed to add an appropriation and a fiscal note to the resolve.

Senate Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (S-381) proposed to require the Department of Environmental Protection, rather than a committee, to conduct the study. The amendment would also change the reporting date to January 1, 1999.

Enacted law summary

Resolve 1997, chapter 76 requires the Department of Environmental Protection to establish the Committee to Review the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act of 1986 for the purpose of reviewing the federal act as it relates to asbestos abatement in schools throughout this State. The department shall submit its report, together with any implementing legislation, to the First Regular Session of the 119th Legislature by January 1, 1999.

LD 1449**Resolve, to Restructure the University of Maine System and
Enhance the Role of the Faculty in Campus Governance****ONTP**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| DESMOND | ONTP MAJ OTP-AM MIN | |

LD 1449 proposed to require the Board of Trustees of the University of Maine System to reorganize the governance and coordination structure of the University of Maine System. The trustees must report their reorganization plan to the Governor, the Legislature and the Executive Director of the Legislative Council.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-351), the minority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs, proposed to add a fiscal note to the resolve.

LD 1459**An Act to More Equitably Distribute General Purpose Aid to
Schools Based on Property Values****ONTP**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| BELANGER I PARADIS | ONTP MAJ OTP-AM MIN | |

LD 1459 proposed to remove the income and cost-of-living factors from the distribution of funding for education under the School Finance Act of 1995, leaving relative property fiscal capacity as the only factor. It further proposed to require that reductions in state funds be made by applying a mill rate to each school administrative unit rather than a percentage.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-560), the minority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs, proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill.

LD 1460**An Act Requiring the Department of Education to Perform Annual
Cost-benefit Analysis of Special Education Programs in the State****PUBLIC 308**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| CAMERON | OTP | |

LD 1460 proposed to direct the Department of Education to perform an annual cost-benefit analysis of special education programs in the State and to hold a public hearing annually for members of school units to explain what special education programs are offered in each unit and the costs of these programs.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1997, chapter 308 directs the Department of Education to perform an annual cost-benefit analysis of special education programs in the State and to hold a public hearing annually for members of school units to explain what special education programs are offered in each unit and the costs of these programs.

LD 1495 An Act to Repeal the Special Education Laws ONTP

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| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> FERGUSON WINGLASS | <u>Committee Report</u> ONTP | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|---|---------------------------------|---------------------------|

LD 1495 proposed to repeal the State's laws pertaining to special education. This bill does not affect special education requirements imposed by federal law.

**LD 1516 Resolve, to Establish a Task Force to Review and Reform the ONTP
System of Learning Results**

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|------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------|
| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> GOODWIN | <u>Committee Report</u> ONTP | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------|

LD 1516 proposed to establish the Task Force to Review and Reform the System of Learning Results.

**LD 1529 Resolve, to Determine How to Increase the Number of Students ONTP
Consuming School Meals**

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|---------------------------|---|---------------------------|
| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> WINN | <u>Committee Report</u> ONTP MAJ OTP-AM MIN | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|---------------------------|---|---------------------------|

LD 1529 proposed to direct the Department of Education to study school meal programs and to report to the Legislature by January 15, 1998. The department would have been directed to examine the rate of low-income students participating in school meal programs, the nutritional content of the food provided, the appeal of the food to participating students and the relation between food appeal and consumption. If problems are identified as a result of the study, the department would be required to develop a plan to deal with them.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-573), the minority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs, proposed to replace the resolve and would have directed the Department of Education and the Center for Research and Evaluation at the University of Maine to study methods to improve school meal programs and report to the Legislature by January 15, 1998. The percentage of eligible students for the free and reduced-price school meal programs and the actual rate of consumption and the relationship between food appeal and consumption would also have been analyzed. If problem areas were identified as a result of the study, the

department would have been required to work with other interested parties to develop a plan to improve those areas within existing resources.

LD 1536

Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Chapter 131: Rules for Learning Results, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Education

RESOLVE 51

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| | OTP-AM MAJ | H-569 |
| | OTP-AM MIN | |

LD 1536 proposed to authorize Chapter 131: Rules for Learning Results, a major substantive rule of the Department of Education.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-569), the majority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs, proposed to require that, prior to final adoption of Chapter 131: Rules for Learning Results, the Department of Education must amend the rule to add an application section. The purpose of this application section would be to ensure that the rules do not conflict with the legislative intent expressed in the enabling legislation that established a statewide system of learning results.

Pursuant to Public Law 1995, chapter 649, section 2, these rules may not require a school administrative unit to take any action that necessitates additional expenditures from local revenues unless the Department of Education pays for 90% of the additional costs. Should a school administrative unit determine that it is unable to implement the learning results in the five core subject areas within existing state and local resources, the unit shall present its findings and supporting evidence to the Department of Education. The department shall review the findings and evidence and, if necessary, would assist the unit in planning for implementation.

This amendment would also restate the provisions of Public Law 1995, chapter 649, section 3 that allows a school administrative unit to delay implementation of the system of learning results in the areas of career preparation, foreign languages and visual and performing arts if adoption in these areas could not be achieved within the local unit's existing resources.

Finally, this amendment proposed to remove the emergency preamble and clause and add a fiscal note to the resolve.

Committee Amendment "B" (H-570), the minority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs, proposed to provide that final adoption of the rules for the learning results system would not be authorized by the Legislature. This amendment also proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill. The amendment was not adopted.

House Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (H-626) proposed to replace the committee amendment and disapprove Chapter 131: Rules for Learning Results as submitted by the Department of Education. The amendment further proposed to deappropriate funding for the Maine Educational Assessment testing and professional development of educators to assist school administrative units with implementing the system of learning results. The effect of this deappropriation would be to suspend the system of learning results. The amendment was not adopted.

Numerous other House Amendments proposed to disapprove the rules for learning results provisionally adopted by the Department of Education and would have established a study group to assist in formulating new rules (see H-627, H-629, H-630, H-631, H-632, H-633, H-644, H-645, H-660, H-661, H-663, and H-664). These amendments were not adopted.

Senate Amendment "A" (S-320) proposed to authorize final adoption of rules for learning results provisionally adopted by the Department of Education. This amendment further proposed to deappropriate funds appropriated for the Maine Education Assessment and would direct them to the General Fund. This amendment would also prohibit the Department of Education from using the Maine Education Assessment as part of a student's graduation requirements. The amendment was not adopted.

Enacted law summary

Resolve 1997, chapter 51 authorizes the final adoption of Chapter 131: Rules for Learning Results, a major substantive rule of the Department of Education, with the following provisions to the rule. This law requires the department to amend the rule to add an application section. The purpose of this application section is to ensure that the rules do not conflict with the legislative intent expressed in the enabling legislation that established a statewide system of learning results.

Pursuant to Public Law 1995, chapter 649, section 2, these rules may not require a school administrative unit to take any action that necessitates additional expenditures from local revenues unless the Department of Education pays for 90% of the additional costs. Should a school administrative unit determine that it is unable to implement the learning results in the five core subject areas within existing state and local resources, the unit shall present its findings and supporting evidence to the Department of Education. The department shall review the findings and evidence and, if necessary, would assist the unit in planning for implementation.

This law also restates the provisions of Public Law 1995, chapter 649, section 3, which allows a school administrative unit to delay implementation of the system of learning results in the areas of career preparation, foreign languages and visual and performing arts if adoption in these areas can not be achieved within the local unit's existing resources.

LD 1538

An Act to Promote Adult Education

P & S 47

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| BRENNAN PENDLETON P | OTP-AM | H-246 S-368 MICHAUD |

LD 1538 proposed to ensure that funding for the state subsidy for public school adult education in fiscal years 1997-98 and 1998-99 is no less than the level appropriated for fiscal year 1996-97 and would further require the state subsidy to increase in proportion to any increase in the state subsidy to public education for grades kindergarten through 12 (see also LD 854).

Committee Amendment "A" (H-246) proposed to add an appropriation section and a fiscal note to the bill.

Senate Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (S-368) proposed to replace the committee amendment which required that the state subsidy for adult education be increased in proportion to any increase provided to

General Purpose Aid to Local Schools and provided General Fund appropriations representing 2% and 3% increases in fiscal years 1997-98 and 1998-99, respectively. This amendment would instead provide a General Fund appropriation to the Department of Education's Learning Systems account in order to increase the adult education subsidy 2% in fiscal year 1998-99.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1997, chapter 47 provides a General Fund appropriation to the Department of Education's Learning Systems account in order to increase the adult education subsidy 2% in fiscal year 1998-99.

LD 1542

An Act Concerning Time-out Areas

PUBLIC 428

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|---------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| PLOWMAN CATHCART | OTP-AM | H-541 H-612 DAVIDSON |

LD 1542 proposed to prohibit the use of time-out boxes for purposes of punishment or detention and would require the Department of Education to adopt rules regarding the use of punishment techniques and areas.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-541) proposed to replace the original bill and delineate certain specifications regarding the use of a time-out area. The amendment would also direct the Commissioner of Education to adopt rules regarding time-out procedures generally and to ensure that those rules are consistent with other departments and state agencies. The amendment also proposed to add a mandate preamble and a fiscal note to the bill.

House Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (H-612), proposed on behalf of the Committee on Engrossed Bills, would clarify a reference to the statutes.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1997, chapter 428 delineates certain specifications regarding the use of a time-out area. The law also directs the Commissioner of Education to adopt rules regarding time-out procedures generally and to ensure that those rules are consistent with the policies of other departments and state agencies.

LD 1544

An Act to Amend the Process by Which School Construction Is Approved

CARRIED OVER

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| TRUE | | |

LD 1544 proposes to authorize the Department of Education to develop standardized construction plans and to choose school plans for new school construction that take the school's five-year target population into consideration. The bill further proposes to require the department to develop a process for choosing the plans in a timely manner and requires any changes to the plans requested by a local school administrative unit to be the responsibility of the local unit.

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|----------------|---|-------------|
| LD 1545 | An Act to Amend the Laws Governing Correction of Student Education Records | ONTP |
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| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> LEMKE | <u>Committee Report</u> ONTP | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
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LD 1545 proposed to amend the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 4708 concerning the finality of a student's grade by requiring the teacher, upon request, to establish in a hearing the basis for the student's grade and that the teacher neither took any action nor failed to take any action that contributed to a reduction in the grade.

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| LD 1553 | Resolve, to Establish the Commission to Study the Restructuring of the University of Maine System | ONTP |
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| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> STEVENS CATHCART | <u>Committee Report</u> ONTP | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
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LD 1553 proposed to establish the Commission to Study the Restructuring of the University of Maine System.

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| LD 1557 | An Act to Create Efficient and Effective Administration of the University of Maine System | P & S 37 |
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| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> MITCHELL E | <u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> H-580 |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|

LD 1557 proposed to amend the Charter of the University of Maine System in several significant ways. The bill would replace the current Board of Trustees of the system with a Board of Regents and provide clearer guidance for the board in fulfilling its role as the central governing body of the system. The Board of Regents would be charged with providing sound financial management and stewardship of assets and would be directed to evaluate personnel and programs while bearing in mind the needs and priorities, both educational and economic of the people of the State. The Board of Regents would be structurally changed to require alumni members who represent each of the seven universities.

The bill further proposed to provide additional duties for the chancellor with a focus on eliminating duplication in the areas of planning, budget preparation and management oversight.

The bill would also establish boards of trustees for each of the seven universities that advocate for the universities, advise the president, raise funds and review recommendations made to the Board of Regents.

The bill would further require the Board of Regents to report to the Second Regular Session of the 118th Legislature concerning its review of programs and methods of distribution of state resources and a mechanism for using any savings that result from enactment of this bill to reduce tuition increases.

The bill also proposed to make a General Fund appropriation of \$1,000,000 to the University of Maine at Augusta to provide parity in student support.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-580) proposed to restore the Board of Trustees as the central governing body for the University of Maine System. This amendment further proposed to accomplish the following:

1. Direct the Governor to make every effort to appoint an alumnus of each of the seven university campuses to the Board of Trustees;
2. Establish two additional duties of the chancellor regarding the duplication of academic offerings with the State's private and public postsecondary institutions and the transfer of academic credits between all campuses of the University of Maine System;
3. Designate the campus boards as the "boards of visitors," authorize each campus president to nominate up to 20 board members subject to approval of the Board of Trustees, and permit board members to be reimbursed for travel and other expenses within the existing resources of the University of Maine System;
4. Direct the Board of Trustees to study methods in other states and make recommendations to create a more market-driven system; and
5. Remove the appropriation section from the bill.

This amendment also proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill.

House Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (H-647) proposed to replace the committee amendment. This amendment differs from the committee amendment in the following ways.

1. It would reinstate the Board of Regents established in the bill.
2. It would specify that the Board of Regents of the University of Maine System shall hire and evaluate the chancellor.
3. It would eliminate a specified duty of the chancellor to provide a centralized management oversight of services.
4. It would restore the separate 7-member boards of trustees of the seven universities that were proposed in the original bill and direct the individual boards to hire and evaluate the university president.

This amendment also proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill. The amendment was not adopted.

House Amendment "B" to Committee Amendment "A" (H-648) also proposed to replace the committee amendment, and differs from the committee amendment in the following ways.

1. It would reinstate the Board of Regents established in the bill.
2. It would specify that the Board of Regents of the University of Maine System shall hire and evaluate the chancellor.

3. It would specify that the Chancellor of the University of Maine System shall prepare the budget of the chancellor's office and coordinate and present to the Governor and the Legislature the budgets, appropriation requests and bond issues presented by the university presidents and the universities.
4. It would eliminate a specified duty of the chancellor to provide a centralized management oversight of services.
5. It would restore the separate seven-member boards of trustees of the seven universities that were proposed in the original bill and direct the individual boards to, prepare budgets and present them to the Board of Regents of the University of Maine System for coordination and presentation to the Governor and Legislature by the chancellor and the university president, and hire and evaluate the president of the particular university.

This amendment also proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill. The amendment was not adopted.

Enacted law summary

Private and Special Law 1997, chapter 37 amends the governance and coordination provisions in the Charter of the University of Maine System. The law accomplishes the following:

1. It directs the Governor to make every effort to appoint an alumnus of each of the seven university campuses to the Board of Trustees;
2. It establishes two additional duties of the chancellor regarding the duplication of academic offerings with the State's private and public postsecondary institutions and the transfer of academic credits between all campuses of the University of Maine System;
3. It establishes Boards of Visitors for each of the seven universities that shall advocate for the universities, advise the president, raise funds and review recommendations made to the Board of Trustees. Each campus president is authorized to nominate up to 20 board members subject to approval of the Board of Trustees. Board members may be reimbursed for travel and other expenses within the existing resources of the University of Maine System; and
4. It directs the Board of Trustees to study methods in other states and make recommendations to create a more market-driven system.

LD 1560

Resolve, Directing the State Board of Education to Study Charter Schools and School Choice

RESOLVE 62

Sponsor(s)
JENKINS

Committee Report
OTP-AM

Amendments Adopted
S-317

LD 1560 proposed to establish the Committee to Study the Development of the Charter School Initiative.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-317) proposed to replace the original resolve and would direct the State Board of Education to establish a committee to study charter schools and school choice initiatives in other states and jurisdictions. In conducting its study, the board's committee would meet at least four times and would report its findings and any recommended legislation to the Legislature by January 1, 1998.

This amendment also proposed to add a fiscal note to the resolve.

Enacted law summary

Resolve 1997, chapter 62 directs the State Board of Education to establish a committee to study charter schools and school choice initiatives in other states and jurisdictions. In conducting its study, the board's committee shall meet at least four times and shall report its findings and any recommended legislation to the Legislature by January 1, 1998.

LD 1565

Resolve, to Assist the Sanford Regional Vocational Center

ONTP

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|--------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| LAWRENCE TUTTLE | ONTP | |

LD 1565 proposed to allow the school units affiliated with the applied technology center located in Sanford to contribute money for improvements to the center without affecting their state subsidies for education. The resolve would also allow the center to receive the money from the school units without affecting its state subsidy for education.

LD 1581

An Act to Improve the Child Development Services System and Encourage Collaboration in Early Childhood Programs with School Administrative Units

PUBLIC 534

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| KERR | OTP-AM | H-703 S-374 MICHAUD |

LD 1581 proposed to make the following changes to the laws governing the Child Development Services System.

1. It would clarify the definition of "disability" for children age three to under age six.
2. It would ensure a demonstration of nonsupplanting with federal funds in the annual report by the Interdepartmental Coordinating Council for Early Intervention, now to be provided to the Commissioner of Education.
3. It would standardize procedures and rates of payment for services delivered by Child Development Services System sites across the State.
4. It would permit flexibility in the establishment of advisory bodies required under the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.
5. It would establish parameters for the program day and the program year for special instruction services for children served by the Child Development Services System.

6. It would encourage collaboration between Child Development Services System regional boards and school administrative units whenever possible, to maximize efforts and the effective use of resources, to ensure consistent quality of programming and to facilitate the transition process for children and families from the Child Development Services System to the public school system.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-703) proposed to strike out provisions of the bill regarding the frequency and intensity of early intervention services and instead would direct the Department of Education to develop rules addressing these matters. This amendment also proposed to restore the requirement that the Interdepartmental Coordinating Council for Early Intervention report annually to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education and cultural affairs. This amendment further proposed to establish a task force to review and make recommendations regarding:

1. Whether or not the consolidation of regional sites in the Child Development Services System could achieve greater administrative efficiency and economy; and
2. The cost-effectiveness of hiring professional staff to be employed at the regional Child Development Services Systems sites as compared to contracting for services with nonprofit and for-profit services providers.

Finally, this amendment proposed to add an appropriation section and a fiscal note to the bill.

Senate Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (S-374) proposed to reduce the number of task force members, specify the number of meetings and revise the appropriation section.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1997, chapter 534 makes the following changes to the laws governing the Child Development Services System. The law accomplishes the following:

1. It clarifies the definition of "disability" for children age three to under age six.
2. It ensures a demonstration of nonsupplanting with federal funds in the annual report by the Interdepartmental Coordinating Council for Early Intervention, now to be provided to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs and the Commissioner of Education;
3. It standardizes procedures and rates of payment for services delivered by Child Development Services System sites across the State;
4. It permits flexibility in the establishment of advisory bodies required under the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act;
5. It directs the Department of Education to develop rules addressing parameters for the program day and the program year for special instruction services for children served by the Child Development Services System;
6. It encourages collaboration between Child Development Services System regional boards and school administrative units whenever possible, to maximize efforts and the effective use of resources, to ensure consistent quality of programming and to facilitate the transition process for children and families from the Child Development Services System to the public school system; and

7. It establishes a task force to review and make recommendations regarding the potential for achieving greater administrative efficiency and economy from consolidating regional sites in the Child Development Services System, and the cost-effectiveness of hiring professional staff to be employed at the regional Child Development Services Systems sites as compared to contracting for services with nonprofit and for-profit services providers.

LD 1597

**An Act to Make Certain Changes in the University of Maine System
to Promote Lifelong Learning**

ONTP

Sponsor(s)
BENNETT

Committee Report
ONTP

Amendments Adopted

LD 1597 was a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. This bill proposed to:

1. Direct the Board of Trustees of the University of Maine System to establish a transfer policy that allows students to transfer all general education courses within the University of Maine System from one campus to another without restrictions;
2. Establish a common academic calendar that enables all of the campuses of the system to be on the same academic schedule;
3. Establish tuition rates that do not vary more than 10% among the campuses;
4. Ensure that the Education Network of Maine (ENM) serves as a student-centered instructional delivery system that retains broadcast facilities located at the University of Maine at Augusta, yet provides post-secondary education students across the State with the full range of academic programs and the breadth of faculty expertise that are available at each campus of the University of Maine System; and
5. Allow no more than 10% of any institution's total budget to be used for administrative purposes and prohibit the average salaries of University of Maine System administrators, including the office of the Chancellor and system-wide services staff, from exceeding the average salary of University of Maine System faculty members who are involved in teaching and research.

LD 1601

**RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of
Maine to Require the Legislature to Provide a Statewide System of
Uniform and High-quality Education**

CARRIED OVER

Sponsor(s)
LONGLEY

Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

LD 1601 proposes an amendment to the Constitution of Maine to strike the words requiring that towns make suitable provision for the support and maintenance of schools and to add language requiring the Legislature to support schools and to seek to ensure that a program of uniform and high-quality education is established and continually maintained at all schools in the State. The bill was carried over to the Second Regular Session of the 118th Legislature.

LD 1622

An Act to Require That a Course in Multicultural Education Be Included in All Teacher Preparation Programs in the State

CARRIED OVER

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| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
| MCKEE | | |
| PARADIS | | |

LD 1622 proposes that teacher preparation programs offered in the State must include a mandatory course in multicultural education. The bill was carried over to the Second Regular Session of the 118th Legislature.

LD 1626

An Act Requiring Voter Approval for the Relocation of an Elementary School Class

ONTP

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| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
| SKOGLUND | ONTP MAJ | |
| PINGREE | OTP-AM MIN | |

LD 1626 proposed to ensure that the interests of the voters in a member municipality are not ignored or overridden by the board of directors of a school administrative district when the board of directors proposes to relocate an elementary school class or classes outside of the boundaries of the member municipality. This bill would have required that:

1.

Prior to the proposed relocation of an elementary school class, the member municipality voters would have the right to vote on the proposal;
2.

Any additional costs or savings that result from not relocating a class or classes would be a part of the article presented to the voters; and
3.

Any adjustment in a member municipality's payment that results from the relocation or nonrelocation of an elementary school class or classes would be debited or credited to the member municipality's assessment in equal monthly amounts or by another method mutually agreed upon by the municipality and the board of directors of the school administrative district.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-352), the minority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs, proposed to add a mandate preamble and a fiscal note to the bill.

LD 1628**An Act to Expand the Board of Trustees of the University of Maine System****ONTP**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|---------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| CATHCART STEVENS | ONTP MAJ OTP-AM MIN | |

LD 1628 proposed to add three additional members to the Board of Trustees of the University of Maine System representing full-time faculty, professional, administrative, clerical and office employees and adjunct and part-time faculty.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-289), the minority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs, proposed to establish a separate trustee to represent the clerical and office employees bargaining unit, as well as a separate trustee to represent the service and maintenance employees bargaining unit and would have eliminated the bargaining unit representing the adjunct and part-time faculty from being added to the University of Maine System Board of Trustees.

LD 1632**An Act to Improve Taxpayer Equity in School Funding****ONTP**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| PENDLETON P | ONTP | |

LD 1632 proposed to further require the State to use a school unit's weighted relative fiscal capacity to calculate a unit's local share of program costs. The Committee to Study Organizational and Tax Issues in Public Schools, as established by the 116th Legislature, issued its final report in February of 1995. That report recognized the use of property values as the exclusive measure of a municipality's ability to pay its local share of education costs. The report recommended the use of income and costs of living along with property values in the formula used to distribute general purpose aid for education.

In response to the committee's report, the 117th Legislature passed the School Finance Act of 1995. That Act introduced income, as modified by a regional cost-of-living factor as a 15% factor, in the calculation of municipal ability to pay. Property value unadjusted for cost of living was left as an 85% factor. This bill increases the weight of the income factor to 25%. It also uses the cost-of-living factor to adjust a municipality's property values. This bill proposed to further require the State to use a school unit's weighted relative fiscal capacity to calculate a unit's local share of program costs. Those costs are substantial in most school units but current law only uses a unit's property value to calculate the unit's local share.

LD 1637**An Act to Authorize Interest-only Interim Financing in the School Construction Funding Process****PUBLIC 397**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| PINGREE | OTP-AM | S-328 |

LD 1637 proposed to authorize the Appleton, Camden, Hope, Lincolnville and Rockport Community School District, the creation of which was authorized by the Legislature in 1994, to issue bonds or notes for school construction purposes to build a high school serving grades nine to 12 in those communities. Upon completion of the new school facility, the district would assume responsibility for operating grades nine to 12 as contemplated in the enabling legislation. In order to ensure that the State would not exceed the maximum debt service limit established in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 15905, and to avoid any negative impact on the timing and relative priority of other school construction projects presently awaiting approval by the State Board of Education, the Appleton, Camden, Hope, Lincolnville and Rockport Community School District would be required to treat all of the debt service on the project during the fiscal year in which the bonds for the project were issued and the next five fiscal years as locally funded debt service without state participation. The state share of debt service allocation for the project during this initial period would be added to the district's state-local allocation for debt service in equal installments in each of the remaining fiscal years that the bonds for the project remain outstanding after the initial period. During these remaining fiscal years after the initial period, the district would be responsible for the local share of debt service allocation calculated in accordance with state law.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-328) proposed to replace the bill and change the title. This amendment proposed to authorize the State Board of Education to establish an interest-only interim financing provision in law so that this school construction financing mechanism would be available to all school administrative units in the State rather than just the Appleton, Camden, Hope, Lincolnville and Rockport Community School District.

This amendment also proposed the following provisions:

1. The State Board of Education may accelerate the dates on which it could grants concept approval and funding approval for a school construction project which has been placed on the special priority list on the condition that the school administrative units would provide interest-only interim local financing project;
2. The school administrative unit must submit a referendum question to the voters and must receive voter approval for the project which is subject to interest-only interim local financing. Should voters not approve the interim-only school construction project, the project would remain eligible for state board concept and funding approval at the time it would have received such approval under normal funding circumstances; and
3. The interest-only payments made by a school administrative unit during the period of interim financing must be paid from local funds without state participation and would not be included in the unit's debt service costs for state subsidy purposes.

The amendment also proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1997, chapter 397 authorizes the State Board of Education to establish an interest-only interim financing provision in law so that this alternative school construction financing mechanism may be available to all school administrative units in the State.

This law contains the following provisions:

1. The State Board of Education may accelerate the dates on which it grants concept approval and funding approval for a school construction project which has been placed on the special priority list on the condition that the school administrative units will provide interest-only interim local financing project;

2. The school administrative unit must submit a referendum question to the voters and must receive voter approval for the project which is subject to interest-only interim local financing. Should voters not approve the interim-only school construction project, the project remains eligible for state board concept and funding approval at the time it would have received such approval under normal funding circumstances; and
3. The interest-only payments made by a school administrative unit during the period of interim financing must be paid from local funds without state participation and may not be included in the unit's debt service costs for state subsidy purposes.

LD 1638

An Act to Establish a Higher Standard for Appropriate Education of Students with Disabilities

ONTP

| | | |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
| PENDLETON P | ONTP | |

LD 1638 proposed to replace the general provisions that govern the identification, evaluation, assessment and placement of children requiring special education. The purpose of this bill, which is based on Massachusetts law, is to provide a flexible and uniform system of special education program opportunities for all children requiring special education; and to provide a flexible and nondiscriminatory system for identifying and evaluating the individual needs of such children; and to facilitate the realization of the educational potential of each child.

LD 1643

Resolve, Directing the State Board of Education to Add Consolidation to the School Construction Rating System

ONTP

| | | |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
| COWGER TREAT | ONTP | |

LD 1643 proposed to direct the State Board of Education to amend its rules governing the school construction rating process to include a category that awards points for school consolidation and proposed to direct the State Board of Education to establish criteria for evaluating whether consolidation is warranted for a project. This resolve also proposed to direct the State Board of Education to establish subsidy incentives for approved school construction projects that include consolidation.

LD 1652

An Act to Establish the Dirigo Higher Education Bond Program to Provide Financial Aid to Maine Students **CARRIED OVER**

| | | |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
| DAVIDSON | | |

LD 1652 proposes to establish the Dirigo Higher Education Bond Program to provide financial aid to Maine students under the administration of the Finance Authority of Maine. The program is designed to offer bonds, for

purchase by Maine residents, that are redeemable to pay the costs of attendance at institutions of higher education. The bill was carried over to the Second Regular Session of the 118th Legislature.

LD 1653 An Act to Abolish the State Board of Education CARRIED OVER

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| JOY | | |

LD 1653 proposes to abolish the State Board of Education, transfer its responsibilities to the Department of Education and provide for its funding to be used for the Maine School of Science and Mathematics and general purpose aid. The bill was carried over to the Second Regular Session of the 118th Legislature.

LD 1671 An Act Concerning the Calculation of the State's Share of School Funding ONTP

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| SKOGLUND | ONTP MAJ OTP-AM MIN | |

LD 1671 proposed to change the calculation and the payment of the state and local shares of the per pupil guarantee under the school funding formula for school administrative districts and community school districts. This bill would determine the calculation and payment of state and local shares of the per pupil guarantee for school administrative districts and community school districts as if they were individual school administrative units. This bill would take effect at the start of fiscal year 2000-01 to allow the State and member municipalities in school administrative districts and community school districts time to adjust to this change.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-558), the minority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs, proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill.

LD 1685 An Act to Encourage the Development of Charter Schools ONTP

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| CATHCART BARTH | ONTP | |

LD 1685 proposed to allow certain public bodies to approve the establishment of charter schools, a new type of public school, to be a part of the State's program of public education.

Charter schools could have been new schools or they could be existing schools that have converted to charter status. Sponsors could have included a local school board, the State Board of Education, a new state board formed expressly to approve and oversee charter schools, or the board of a public postsecondary institution.

Charter schools would have also offered students and parents a choice of public schools. Charter schools would have been open to all students equally, though they may have specialized in serving a particular age group, a specific geographic area or a student population with specific needs. A charter school could have also required a demonstration of interest from students if it offered a specific curriculum or teaching methodology. Because they would have been public schools, charter schools could not have been affiliated with nonpublic or religious institutions and would have been required to be nonsectarian in their programs, practices and policies.

Certification would not have been required for each teacher in a charter school, but a minimum of one teacher for every 60 students enrolled must have held state certification. Teachers in charter schools could have been employees of the charter school, and would have had the right to organize and bargain collectively in a separate unit; or teachers could have chosen to operate the charter school themselves, as partners or members of a cooperative.

Funding for charter schools was to be paid directly by the State in an amount equal to the average amount per pupil spent statewide. Approved special education costs incurred beyond that amount were to be paid by the student's resident school administrative unit.

LD 1688 Resolve, to Promote School Choice by Establishing a Voucher Program ONTP

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| MACK | ONTP MAJ | |
| LIBBY | OTP-AM MIN | |

LD 1688 proposed to require that elementary and secondary education be provided by means of a voucher system that would allow students and parents to choose in which schools or programs they want to receive an education. The resolve would require the Department of Education to develop a plan to implement the voucher system beginning for school year 1998-99.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-559), the minority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs, proposed to add a fiscal note to the resolve.

LD 1695 An Act to Provide Early Childhood Education Opportunities ONTP

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| BAKER C | ONTP MAJ | |
| PARADIS | OTP-AM MIN | |

LD 1695 proposed to require the Commissioner of Education to design a model early childhood education program to provide early childhood education opportunities for residents of this State.

The bill further proposed to require the Commissioner of Education to support full-day kindergarten in each school unit and code full-day students as two full-time equivalent students for funding purposes.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-561), the minority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs, proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill.

LD 1699

An Act to Expand the Law Pertaining to Nepotism

ONTP

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| AHEARNE | ONTP | |

LD 1699 proposed to expand the prohibition on employment by a school administrative unit of spouses of school board members to include children and parents of school board members and the spouse of the children and parents.

LD 1717

An Act Establishing a Higher Education Trust as an Instrumentality of the State

CARRIED OVER

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| MITCHELL E PENDLETON P | | |

LD 1717 proposes to establish a higher education trust to assist residents of the State in saving for the costs of attending higher education and to assist students in the payment, in advance, of the tuition and related costs of attending colleges and universities in the State. This bill would create the Maine University Savings Trust as an instrumentality of the State and would accomplish the following.

1. Provide assistance and incentives for saving toward higher education costs and for the purchase of prepaid tuition contracts for the benefit of the children of this State to attend a qualified institution of higher education in the State.
2. Encourage timely financial planning for higher education by the creation of prepaid tuition contracts and further encourages employer participation in that planning.
3. Increase the number of qualified students who will seek to attend colleges and universities in Maine, which will be of benefit to the colleges and universities, and will therefore advance and improve higher education in the State.

Under this proposed bill, members of the Finance Authority of Maine would serve as trustees for the Maine University Savings Trust and act on behalf of the trust to establish and administer the separate trust funds. The bill was carried over to the Second Regular Session of the 118th Legislature.

LD 1718**An Act to Create a Prepaid Tuition Plan****CARRIED OVER**Sponsor(s)
KONTOS
AMEROCommittee ReportAmendments Adopted

LD 1718 proposes to establish a prepaid tuition program that will encourage long-term family savings for higher education tuition costs. Under this bill, the Finance Authority of Maine would be authorized to establish and administer the Maine Prepaid Tuition Savings Plan and, on behalf of the State, to contract for the advance payment of tuition by a parent or other purchaser for a qualified beneficiary to enroll at a campus of the University of Maine System to which the qualified beneficiary is admitted, without further tuition cost to the qualified beneficiary. A qualified beneficiary would also have the option of applying prepaid tuition benefits to attend an accredited institution of higher education other than a campus of the University of Maine System, including an accredited technical, community or junior college, provided that tuition paid by the program to the other institution of higher education is limited to the total amount of tuition charged at the campus of the University of Maine System that charges the highest rate of tuition. The bill was carried over to the Second Regular Session of the 118th Legislature.

LD 1721**An Act Regarding Appointment to the Maine Public Broadcasting Board of Trustees****CARRIED OVER**Sponsor(s)
CATHCARTCommittee ReportAmendments Adopted

LD 1721 proposes to alter the composition of the Board of Trustees of the Maine Public Broadcasting Corporation. Under this bill, the Governor would be required to appoint eight public trustees and the President of the Maine Public Broadcasting Corporation would be prohibited from serving on the board. The bill was carried over to the Second Regular Session of the 118th Legislature.

LD 1725**An Act to Authorize Interlocal Agreements for Construction and Operation of Public Education Fiber-optic Transmission Systems****CARRIED OVER**Sponsor(s)
PARADIS
O'NEALCommittee ReportAmendments Adopted

LD 1725 proposes to provide school administrative units with the fiscal powers required to construct and finance fiber-optic systems. The bill further proposes to authorize school administrative units, including municipalities, school administrative districts, community school districts and applied technology regions, to enter into interlocal agreements and to form nonprofit corporations in order to construct and operate fiber-optic cable systems for educational purposes to provide interactive audio-visual communication among school administrative units. Such fiber-optic systems have the potential to improve public education and to reduce school transportation and construction costs by providing a practical and inexpensive means of consolidating school programs, particularly in the more rural areas of the State. The bill was carried over to the Second Regular Session of the 118th Legislature.

LD 1735

An Act to Promote Higher Education

INDEF PP

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| MURPHY PENDLETON P | OTP-AM | |

LD 1735 proposed to provide for the appropriation of an additional \$1,250,000 in General Funds to the Finance Authority of Maine to increase funding for the student incentive scholarship program for fiscal years 1997-98 and 1998-99.

The bill further proposed to require that, beginning with fiscal year 1999-2000, the appropriation for the student incentive scholarship program be increased annually by \$1,000,000 until the appropriation would be sufficient to provide all students demonstrating financial need with the maximum grant of financial assistance.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-542) proposed to amend the appropriation of funds to the Student Incentive Scholarship Program and to add a fiscal note to the bill.

LD 1739

An Act to Amend the Formula Determining the Local Share in the School Funding Process

ONTP

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| PLOWMAN | ONTP | |

LD 1739 proposed to provide that, if a school administrative unit raises its state average mill rate, the Commissioner of Education would pay the entire school administrative unit's state subsidy share to that school administrative unit without penalty.

LD 1765

An Act to Amend the Structure of the University of Maine System

ONTP

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| BROOKS LIBBY | ONTP | |

LD 1765 proposed to amend the University of Maine System Charter by replacing the board of trustees with a board of regents. The bill also proposed to establish an executive council of presidents made up of four of the presidents of the universities and colleges in the system. The bill directs all changes to be implemented by July 1, 1999.

LD 1769 **An Act to Authorize Additional Adjustments to the State Share of School Funding** **CARRIED OVER**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|---------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| DESMOND KILKELLY | | |

LD 1769 proposes to amend the adjustment provisions of the school finance laws. This bill would accomplish the following.

1. It would require the state share of subsidizable education costs statewide to be at least 50% annually.
2. It would establish a five percent incentive adjustment to promote administrative consolidation of schools within a school administrative unit.
3. It would require the Commissioner of Education to repay each school administrative unit the amounts withheld from that unit in fiscal year 1991-92 and would establish a five-year repayment period beginning in fiscal year 1997-98.
4. It would require the commissioner to propose the legislation necessary to provide 100% state funding for any costs that school administrative units incur in implementing the system of learning results.
5. It would establish a one-year moratorium on new school construction funds until a statewide school facilities inventory and an independent evaluation are completed.
6. It would repeal the provisions related to adjustments for geographic isolation and nonpublic school service. The bill was carried over to the Second Regular Session of the 118th Legislature.

LD 1772 **Resolve, to Promote the Health of Maine's Children** **ONTP**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| DAGGETT KANE | ONTP | |

LD 1772 proposed to establish the Maine Child Health Task Force. The task force would develop a curriculum and plan for a pilot project for elementary schools to focus on health, physical fitness and physical activity.

LD 1778 **An Act to Establish the Maine Prepaid College Tuition Program** **CARRIED OVER**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| MURRAY WATSON | | |

LD 1778 proposes to establish the Maine Prepaid College Tuition Program, administered by a board of trustees with the administrative support of the Treasurer of State. The program would provide for advance purchase by parents of tuition and housing contracts at current prices that will provide for future attendance by their children at campuses of the University of Maine System, the Maine Technical College System or the Maine Maritime Academy. Funds under the contracts may be used for attendance at private colleges and universities and to out-of-state public institutions of higher education up to the amount that would have been paid to an in-state institution under the contract. The bill was carried over to the Second Regular Session of the 118th Legislature.

LD 1805 Resolve, Directing the Commissioner of Education to Establish RESOLVE 38
Plans for an Alternative School Calendar

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| DONNELLY | OTP-AM MAJ | H-461 |
| PENDLETON P | ONTP MIN | |

LD 1805 proposed to allow a school administrative unit to schedule no more than six consecutive vacation weeks during a calendar year. The bill further proposed to establish the Commission to Study the School Year Calendar to study the effects of an extended school year and increasing compensated training days and programs for teachers.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-461) proposed to replace the original bill and direct the Commissioner of Education to establish plans for an alternative school calendar for local schools that are interested in an alternative school calendar and would direct the commissioner to hold a statewide meeting on the issue of alternative school calendars. The amendment would require the commissioner to report back to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs no later than January 15, 1998.

Enacted law summary

Resolve 1997, chapter 38 directs the Commissioner of Education to establish plans for an alternative school calendar for local schools that are interested in an alternative school calendar and further directs the commissioner to hold a statewide meeting on the issue of alternative school calendars. The law requires the commissioner to report back to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs no later than January 15, 1998.

LD 1825 An Act to Authorize a Tuition Savings Plan to Encourage CARRIED OVER
Attendance at Institutions of Higher Education

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| PENDLETON P | | |
| KONTOS | | |

LD 1825 proposes to create the Maine Tuition Savings Program to assist residents of the State in meeting the costs of higher education. The bill would provide a mechanism for people to save for education, including favorable tax considerations. This bill is designed to allow a participant to benefit from recently enacted federal tax law providing favorable treatment to tuition savings plans. The bill was carried over to the Second Regular Session of the 118th Legislature.

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| BAKER C | OTP-AM | H-540 |
| PENDLETON P | | H-761 RICHARD |

LD 1832 proposes to establish the Task Force to Study Strategies to Support Parents as Children's First Teachers.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-540) proposed to add to the task force two members representing the Child Development Services System and the Maine Parent Federation and would replace three parents with three members at large to be appointed by the Governor. This amendment would also direct the Department of Human Services to provide staffing and clerical assistance to the task force and would authorize the Commissioner of Human Services to utilize existing department resources to review and report on the duties of the task force. This amendment also proposed to add a fiscal note to the resolve.

House Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (H-761) proposed to reduce the number of task force members, would specify the number of meetings, would specify that legislative members receive per diem and reimbursement for expenses and would add an appropriation section to the bill.

Enacted law summary

Resolve 1997, chapter 68 establishes the Task Force to Study Strategies to Support Parents as Children's First Teachers. The task force shall accomplish the following:

1. Design a comprehensive model of early childhood education and parent support;
2. Catalog and review existing programs to ensure there is a comprehensive and coordinated continuum of early childhood education and parent support services in the State;
3. Investigate ways to establish a statewide resource center for the collection and dissemination of resource materials and an ongoing evaluation of early childhood education and parent support programs; and
4. Review early childhood education and parent support programs in other states and investigate all possible funding sources to implement its recommendations.

The task force shall submit to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs, with a copy to the Governor, a report of its findings, including any necessary implementing legislation no later than December 1, 1997.

LD 1861

**RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of
Maine to Provide Equal Educational Funding**

CARRIED OVER

Sponsor(s)
PARADIS
BELANGER D

Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

LD 1861 proposes to amend the Constitution of Maine to require that the Legislature ensure that funding is available to provide equal educational opportunities to students at public schools throughout the State. The bill was carried over to the Second Regular Session of the 118th Legislature.

LD 1895

**Resolve, to Direct the State Board of Education to Study the School
Funding Formula**

RESOLVE 61

Sponsor(s)

Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

LD 1895 proposed, pursuant to Joint Order (HP 1332), to direct the State Board of Education to establish a committee to study the school funding formula. The state board committee would coordinate its work with the state board committee studying essential programs and services (see LD 1137, section X-1).

The state board committee would accomplish the following:

1. Review the report presented by the Commissioner of Education to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs related to the current methods used to calculate the income and cost-of-living adjustment factors. The State Board of Education would submit its findings and recommendations to the Legislature no later than January 1, 1998; and
2. Review the essential programs and services plan presented by the State Board of Education, pursuant to Public Law 1997, chapter 24, Part X, section 1, to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs for the purpose of developing an adequate and equitable method to fund essential programs and services. The state board committee would submit its findings and recommendations to the Legislature no later than January 15, 1999. The Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs may report out a bill based on the state board recommendations.

House Amendment “A” (H-729) proposed to replace the resolve and would direct the State Board of Education to study several components of the school funding formula, including but not limited to the following:

1. The amount of state funding and the amount and mix of local tax revenue sources for school funding that would be necessary to provide funding for equal educational programs and services to all children in the State;
2. The effectiveness and fairness of the current practice of including income and cost-of-living adjustment factors in the school funding formula and whether this practice should be continued or if state policy should return to the property tax as the sole determinant of the fiscal capacity of a school administrative unit;

3. The effectiveness and fairness of the percentage reduction method as compared to the mill rate reduction method in implementing necessary state subsidy reductions; and
4. The effectiveness and fairness of minimum subsidies and whether or not this practice should be continued.

In conducting its study, the state board's committee would coordinate its work with the committee studying essential programs and services. The state board would report its findings and any recommended legislation to the Legislature by January 1, 1998. The amendment was not adopted.

Senate Amendment “A” (S-345) also proposed to replace the resolve, was a duplicate of House Amendment “A” (H-729). The amendment was not adopted.

Enacted law summary

Resolves chapter 61 directs the State Board of Education to establish a committee to study the school funding formula. In conducting its study, the state board committee may coordinate its work with the committee studying essential programs and services. This resolve directs the state board committee to accomplish the following:

1. Review the report presented by the Commissioner of Education to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs regarding the current methods used to calculate the income and cost-of-living adjustment factors. The state board committee shall submit its findings and any recommendations to the Legislature no later than January 1, 1998; and
2. Review the essential programs and services plan presented by the State Board of Education, pursuant to Public Law 1997, chapter 24, Part X, section 1, to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs for the purpose of developing an adequate and equitable method to fund essential programs and services. The state board committee shall submit its findings and recommendations to the Legislature no later than January 15, 1999. The Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs may report out a bill based on the state board recommendations.

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

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| LD 639 | An Act Regarding the Filing of School Administrative Reports | ONTP | Page 260 |
| LD 684 | An Act to Organize Schools in the Unorganized Territory as a Single School Administrative Unit | ONTP | Page 260 |
| LD 694 | An Act to Repeal the Guiding Principles of the Learning Results System | ONTP | Page 261 |
| LD 714 | An Act to Prohibit the Hiring of Tutors in Lieu of Employing Education Technicians | ONTP | Page 262 |
| LD 754 | Resolve, to Create a Study Committee to Examine School Union Organization and Governance Issues | ONTP | Page 263 |
| LD 793 | An Act to Require that Medication in Schools be Administered by Licensed Personnel | ONTP | Page 263 |
| LD 852 | An Act to Prohibit the State from Dictating Educational Curricula | ONTP | Page 265 |
| LD 1308 | An Act to Authorize School Units to Consolidate Administrative Functions | ONTP | Page 282 |
| LD 1325 | An Act to Make the State Board of Education Elected | CARRIED OVER | Page 282 |
| LD 1340 | An Act to Establish a Public Education Assessment Advisory Commission | CARRIED OVER | Page 284 |
| LD 1363 | Resolve, that the Department of Education Establish a Grant Program to Promote Consolidation and Efficiency in Education | ONTP | Page 286 |

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| LD 1399 | An Act to Allow an Appeal Concerning the Date to Determine Age for Kindergarten | ONTP | Page 287 |
| LD 1416 | An Act Concerning Eligibility for Service on a School Board | CARRIED OVER | Page 290 |
| LD 1516 | Resolve, to Establish a Task Force to Review and Reform the System of Learning Results | ONTP | Page 46 |
| LD 1529 | Resolve, to Determine How to Increase the Number of Students Consuming School Meals | ONTP | Page 293 |
| LD 1545 | An Act to Amend the Laws Governing Correction of Student Education Records | ONTP | Page 297 |
| LD 1601 | RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine to Require the Legislature to Provide a Statewide System of Uniform and High-quality Education | CARRIED OVER | Page 302 |
| LD 1622 | An Act to Require That a Course in Multicultural Education Be Included in All Teacher Preparation Programs in the State | CARRIED OVER | Page 303 |
| LD 1626 | An Act Requiring Voter Approval for the Relocation of an Elementary School Class | ONTP | Page 303 |
| LD 1653 | An Act to Abolish the State Board of Education | CARRIED OVER | Page 307 |
| LD 1695 | An Act to Provide Early Childhood Education Opportunities | ONTP | Page 308 |
| LD 1699 | An Act to Expand the Law Pertaining to Nepotism | ONTP | Page 309 |
| LD 1725 | An Act to Authorize Interlocal Agreements for Construction and Operation of Public Education Fiber-optic Transmission Systems | CARRIED OVER | Page 310 |
| LD 1861 | RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine to Provide Equal Educational Funding | CARRIED OVER | Page 315 |

Adult Education

Enacted

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|----------------|--|---------------------|-----------------|
| LD 1538 | An Act to Promote Adult Education | P & S 47 | Page 295 |
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Not Enacted

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| LD 854 | An Act Regarding the Obligation of the State to Fund Adult Education | INDEF PP | Page 265 |
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Alternative Education, Charter Schools and School Choice

Enacted

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| LD 1560 | Resolve, Directing the State Board of Education to Study Charter Schools and School Choice | RESOLVE 62 | Page 299 |
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Not Enacted

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| LD 556 | Resolve, to Establish a Study Group to Examine the Issue of School Choice | ONTP | Page 258 |
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| LD 623 | An Act to Provide Opportunities for Choice within the Public School System | CARRIED OVER | Page 259 |
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| LD 1080 | An Act to Establish Public Charter Schools | ONTP | Page 271 |
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| LD 1165 | An Act to Allow School Choice | ONTP | Page 275 |
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| LD 1273 | An Act to Establish the Maine Center for Arts Education | INDEF PP | Page 210 |
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| LD 1353 | An Act to Establish a Pilot School Choice Program | ONTP | Page 285 |
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| LD 1685 | An Act to Encourage the Development of Charter Schools | ONTP | Page 307 |
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| LD 1688 | Resolve, to Promote School Choice by Establishing a Voucher Program | ONTP | Page 308 |
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Applied Technology Education

Enacted

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| LD 1048 | Resolve, to Establish a Task Force to Review the Applied Technology Centers and Applied Technology Regions | RESOLVE 74 | Page 270 |
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Not Enacted

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| LD 600 | Resolve, Directing the Department of Education to Review the Laws Governing Applied Technology Centers and Regions | ONTP | Page 259 |
| LD 1209 | An Act Regarding the School Administrative District No. 46 Applied Technology Center | ONTP | Page 278 |
| LD 1295 | An Act Relating to Applied Technology in Western Washington County | ONTP | Page 281 |
| LD 1329 | An Act to Amend the Reimbursement Policy Pertaining to Vocational Education | ONTP | Page 282 |
| LD 1565 | Resolve, to Assist the Sanford Regional Vocational Center | ONTP | Page 300 |

Cultural Affairs

Enacted

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|---------------|--|-------------------|-----------------|
| LD 873 | Resolve, to Appoint a Study Group to Determine How to Consolidate and Preserve the Health Sciences Library in Maine | RESOLVE 12 | Page 267 |
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Not Enacted

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| LD 1721 | An Act Regarding Appointment to the Maine Public Broadcasting Board of Trustees | CARRIED OVER | Page 310 |
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Curriculum, Instruction, Textbooks and Testing

Enacted

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|----------------|---|-------------------|-----------------|
| LD 365 | Resolve, to Encourage Public Schools to Adopt a Conflict Resolution Model | RESOLVE 19 | Page 255 |
| LD 1832 | Resolve, to Establish the Task Force to Study Strategies to Support Parents as Children's First Teachers | RESOLVE 68 | Page 314 |

Not Enacted

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| LD 37 | An Act to Permit Schools to Allow Credit toward a High School Diploma for Paid Driver Education Courses | ONTP | Page 248 |
| LD 185 | An Act to Reward Schools for Exceptional Student Performance on the 4th-grade Maine Educational Assessment Exam | ONTP | Page 251 |
| LD 241 | An Act to Reward Schools for Computer Competency | ONTP | Page 253 |
| LD 846 | An Act to Have One Standard of Measurement for School State Assessment Examinations | ONTP | Page 265 |
| LD 1012 | Resolve, to Require the Department of Education to Develop a Framework for the Study of Social Studies in Public Schools | ONTP | Page 269 |
| LD 1274 | An Act to Include Training in Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation As a High School Graduation Requirement | ONTP | Page 281 |
| LD 1772 | Resolve, to Promote the Health of Maine's Children | ONTP | Page 312 |

Postsecondary Education Finance and Student Aid**Enacted**

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|----------------|---|---------------------|-----------------|
| LD 327 | An Act to Expand Access to Maine's Technical Colleges | P & S 52 | Page 129 |
| LD 399 | An Act to Extend Certain Survivor Benefits to the Spouses of Firefighters and Law Enforcement Officers and Expand the Definition of Law Enforcement Officers | PUBLIC 160 | Page 255 |
| LD 1410 | Resolve, to Establish Additional Funding for the University of Maine System | RESOLVE 70 | Page 288 |

Not Enacted

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| LD 1045 | Resolve, to Create the Task Force on Research and Development Investment | CARRIED OVER | Page 269 |
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| LD 1203 | An Act Regarding Student Financial Aid Programs | ONTP | Page 277 |
| LD 1652 | An Act to Establish the Dirigo Higher Education Bond Program to Provide Financial Aid to Maine Students | CARRIED OVER | Page 306 |
| LD 1717 | An Act Establishing a Higher Education Trust as an Instrumentality of the State | CARRIED OVER | Page 309 |
| LD 1718 | An Act to Create a Prepaid Tuition Plan | CARRIED OVER | Page 310 |
| LD 1735 | An Act to Promote Higher Education | INDEF PP | Page 311 |
| LD 1778 | An Act to Establish the Maine Prepaid College Tuition Program | CARRIED OVER | Page 312 |
| LD 1825 | An Act to Authorize a Tuition Savings Plan to Encourage Attendance at Institutions of Higher Education | CARRIED OVER | Page 313 |

Postsecondary Education Governance and Coordination

Enacted

| | | | |
|----------------|--|---------------------|-----------------|
| LD 1557 | An Act to Create Efficient and Effective Administration of the University of Maine System | P & S 37 | Page 297 |
|----------------|--|---------------------|-----------------|

Not Enacted

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| LD 67 | An Act to Provide for the Position of President of the University of Maine System | ONTP | Page 249 |
| LD 654 | An Act to Amend the Charter of the University of Maine | ONTP | Page 260 |
| LD 953 | An Act to Ensure That the Technical College System Is More Responsive to the Needs of the State | ONTP | Page 268 |
| LD 1168 | Resolve, to Reorganize the University of Maine System | CARRIED OVER | Page 276 |
| LD 1315 | An Act to Make the University of Maine System Board of Trustees an Elected Body | ONTP | Page 282 |
| LD 1338 | An Act to Restructure Public Higher Education | ONTP | Page 284 |

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| LD 1365 | Resolve, to Change the Name of the University of Maine at Augusta to Maine State University | ONTP | Page 286 |
| LD 1449 | Resolve, to Restructure the University of Maine System and Enhance the Role of the Faculty in Campus Governance | ONTP | Page 292 |
| LD 1553 | Resolve, to Establish the Commission to Study the Restructuring of the University of Maine System | ONTP | Page 297 |
| LD 1597 | An Act to Make Certain Changes in the University of Maine System to Promote Lifelong Learning | ONTP | Page 302 |
| LD 1628 | An Act to Expand the Board of Trustees of the University of Maine System | ONTP | Page 304 |
| LD 1765 | An Act to Amend the Structure of the University of Maine System | ONTP | Page 311 |

School Budgets

Enacted

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| LD 24 | An Act to Clarify the School Budget Approval Process | PUBLIC 68 | Page 248 |
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Not Enacted

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| LD 190 | An Act to Require a Revote by Referendum on a School Budget and to Clarify the Budget Referendum Approval Process | ONTP | Page 252 |
| LD 697 | An Act to Give Municipal Officials Oversight of School Administrative District Budgets | ONTP | Page 261 |
| LD 705 | An Act to Amend the Laws Regarding the Approval Process of Budgets of School Administrative Districts | ONTP | Page 262 |
| LD 872 | An Act to Clarify Certain Provisions of Law Relating to the Method of Sharing of School Costs in the Wells-Ogunquit Community School District | ONTP | Page 267 |
| LD 973 | An Act to Allow Towns within a Community School District to Vote on a School Budget by Referendum | ONTP | Page 268 |
| LD 1404 | An Act to Create School Enrichment Funds for Public Schools | ONTP | Page 288 |

School Construction, Facilities and Buses

Enacted

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|----------------|--|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
| LD 237 | An Act to Increase the Funding for School Construction | PUBLIC 469 | Page 252 |
| LD 1229 | An Act to Authorize the Conversion and Reuse of the Perry Hayden Hall at Pineland Center as an Elementary School | P & S 22 EMERGENCY | Page 278 |
| LD 1447 | Resolve, to Require the Department of Environmental Protection to Review the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act of 1986 | RESOLVE 76 | Page 291 |
| LD 1637 | An Act to Authorize Interest-only Interim Financing in the School Construction Funding Process | PUBLIC 397 | Page 304 |

Not Enacted

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| LD 98 | An Act Regarding Balances Remaining in General Purpose Aid for Local Schools | INDEF PP | Page 250 |
| LD 186 | An Act to Limit Reimbursement for Public School Construction and Renovation to \$80 per Square Foot | ONTP | Page 251 |
| LD 320 | An Act to Set the Amount of State Funding for School Building Projects at \$75 a Foot | ONTP | Page 253 |
| LD 929 | An Act to Amend the School Construction Laws to Allow School Construction Projects That Expand Existing School Facilities beyond 8,000 Square Feet to Be Eligible for State School Construction Subsidies | ONTP | Page 268 |
| LD 1085 | An Act to Give Authority to Set Acreage Necessary for Building or Reconstruction of Schools Solely to the Local Authorities | ONTP | Page 271 |
| LD 1099 | An Act to Modify School Construction Laws for Renovation Projects | ONTP | Page 271 |
| LD 1124 | Resolve, Requiring the Department of Education to Replace the Building Code for Schools | ONTP | Page 273 |

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| LD 1141 | Resolve, Regarding School Construction and Renovation Projects | ONTP | Page 273 |
| LD 1195 | An Act to Establish Funding for Repair and Renovation Projects under the State School Construction Program | ONTP | Page 277 |
| LD 1260 | An Act Allowing Schools to Remain on the School Construction Account Priority List | CARRIED OVER | Page 280 |
| LD 1341 | An Act to Improve Maine's School Construction Laws | ONTP | Page 284 |
| LD 1436 | An Act to Amend School Construction Laws | CARRIED OVER | Page 290 |
| LD 1544 | An Act to Amend the Process by Which School Construction Is Approved | CARRIED OVER | Page 296 |
| LD 1643 | Resolve, Directing the State Board of Education to Add Consolidation to the School Construction Rating System | ONTP | Page 306 |

School Finance

Enacted

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|----------------|--|-------------------|-----------------|
| LD 1895 | Resolve, to Direct the State Board of Education to Study the School Funding Formula | RESOLVE 61 | Page 315 |
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Not Enacted

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| LD 187 | An Act to Provide That Students Receiving Any Services from a School Be Counted as Students for Purposes of State Aid | INDEF PP | Page 251 |
| LD 352 | An Act to Provide Additional Funds to Educate Students with Limited English Proficiency | ONTP | Page 254 |
| LD 685 | An Act to Limit Reimbursement for Administrative Expenses Based on the Size of a Local Educational Unit | ONTP | Page 261 |
| LD 815 | An Act to Integrate Teacher Retirement and Other Educational Support Funds into the System for Distributing General Purpose Aid to Education | ONTP | Page 264 |

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| LD 1036 | Resolve, to Review the Components of the Operating Costs in the School Finance Formula | ONTP | Page 269 |
| LD 1355 | An Act to Fully Fund Local Education with Income and Sales Tax Revenues | ONTP | Page 285 |
| LD 1459 | An Act to More Equitably Distribute General Purpose Aid to Schools Based on Property Values | ONTP | Page 292 |
| LD 1671 | An Act Concerning the Calculation of the State's Share of School Funding | ONTP | Page 307 |
| LD 1739 | An Act to Amend the Formula Determining the Local Share in the School Funding Process | ONTP | Page 311 |
| LD 1769 | An Act to Authorize Additional Adjustments to the State Share of School Funding | CARRIED OVER | Page 312 |

Special Education Programs and Finance

Enacted

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|----------------|---|-------------------|-----------------|
| LD 1121 | An Act to Enhance Parental Involvement in Developing Educational Programs for Students with Disabilities | PUBLIC 441 | Page 272 |
| LD 1147 | An Act to Ensure Consistency Between State and Federal Special Education Requirements | PUBLIC 338 | Page 274 |
| LD 1187 | An Act to Improve the Transition of People with Disabilities from Children's to Adult Services | PUBLIC 345 | Page 276 |
| LD 1236 | An Act to Amend the Laws Relating to State Agency Clients | PUBLIC 326 | Page 279 |
| LD 1460 | An Act Requiring the Department of Education to Perform Annual Cost-benefit Analysis of Special Education Programs in the State | PUBLIC 308 | Page 292 |
| LD 1581 | An Act to Improve the Child Development Services System and Encourage Collaboration in Early Childhood Programs with School Administrative Units | PUBLIC 534 | Page 300 |

Not Enacted

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| LD 801 | An Act to Strengthen the Complaint Investigation Process Regarding Students with Disabilities | ONTP | Page 263 |
| LD 811 | An Act to Integrate Sources of Support for Children with Special Needs | ONTP | Page 264 |
| LD 856 | Resolve, to Review Special Education Laws to Determine if They Exceed Federal Requirements | ONTP | Page 265 |
| LD 861 | An Act to Require That School Administrative Units Provide Additional Appropriate Personnel When Transporting Students with Special Needs | ONTP | Page 267 |
| LD 1149 | An Act to Protect Local Education Agencies from Excess Costs Attributable to Special Education Students | ONTP | Page 274 |
| LD 1158 | An Act to Amend the Laws Concerning Special Education of Exceptional Students | ONTP | Page 275 |
| LD 1164 | An Act to Amend the Laws Regarding Child Development Services | ONTP | Page 275 |
| LD 1394 | An Act to Establish a State Residential Treatment Center for Certain Students | ONTP | Page 286 |
| LD 1398 | An Act to Clarify the Law Regarding the Discipline of Exceptional Students | CARRIED OVER | Page 287 |
| LD 1415 | Resolve, Directing the Department of Education to Review Certain Procedures Regarding Special Education | ONTP | Page 289 |
| LD 1425 | An Act to Provide for Direct Reimbursement of Special Education Costs | ONTP | Page 290 |
| LD 1495 | An Act to Repeal the Special Education Laws | ONTP | Page 293 |
| LD 1632 | An Act to Improve Taxpayer Equity in School Funding | ONTP | Page 304 |
| LD 1638 | An Act to Establish a Higher Standard for Appropriate Education of Students with Disabilities | ONTP | Page 306 |

Teachers and Administrators

Enacted

None

Not Enacted

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|----------------|---|-------------|-----------------|
| LD 100 | An Act to Require Elementary and Secondary School Teachers to Be Certified in Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation and Basic First Aid | ONTP | Page 251 |
| LD 1281 | An Act to Require Individuals to Pass At Least 2 National Teachers Examination Core Battery Tests before Being Able to Be Recertified BY REQUEST | ONTP | Page 281 |
| LD 1442 | An Act to Prohibit the Denial of Teacher Certification Based on Refusal to Participate in Learning Results | ONTP | Page 291 |

Truants and Dropouts

Enacted

None

Not Enacted

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|----------------|--|-------------|-----------------|
| LD 721 | An Act to Reduce School Truancy | ONTP | Page 262 |
| LD 1271 | An Act Pertaining to Truancy | ONTP | Page 280 |

Tuition Rates for Non-resident Students

Enacted

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|---------------|---|---------------------------------|-----------------|
| LD 505 | An Act to Establish a Tuition Rate for Education in the Unorganized Territory | PUBLIC 535 | Page 258 |
| LD 857 | Resolve, to Require the Department of Education to Review the Methods Used to Determine the Tuition Rates of a Receiving School for a Student from Another School District | RESOLVE 75 EMERGENCY | Page 266 |

Not Enacted

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| LD 428 | An Act to Clarify Tuition Rates for Middle School Students | ONTP | Page 256 |
| LD 432 | An Act to Allow Municipalities to Set Tuition Rates for Nonresident Students | ONTP | Page 256 |
| LD 701 | Resolve, to Establish a Tuition Rate for the Town of Dennysville | ONTP | Page 262 |
| LD 1010 | An Act Regarding Nonresident School Tuition | ONTP | Page 269 |
| LD 1109 | An Act to Amend the State Share Percentage for Public School Tuition Students | ONTP | Page 271 |

Education - Other

Enacted

None

Not Enacted

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|---------------|---|-------------|-----------------|
| LD 236 | An Act to Strengthen the Requirements for Acquisition of Driver's Licenses by Minors | ONTP | Page 252 |
| LD 319 | An Act Regarding Rabies Vaccinations for Animals on School Grounds | ONTP | Page 253 |
| LD 947 | An Act to Include Youth in Public Service | ONTP | Page 268 |

